



# St Joseph's School Newsletter



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28 FEBRUARY 2018  
TERM 1 WEEK 5

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

It was wonderful to celebrate our Beginning of School Mass with you last week. The opportunity to come together as a whole school community to celebrate and share a meal is a valuable part of what we do at St Joseph's. Our school leaders are proudly wearing their badges and learning about the responsibilities involved with leading by example. We will include some photos from the evening in next week's newsletter.

### PT&F

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend last night's PT&F meeting. It is so important that we all work together in order to support our children in their education and provide them with the necessary resources to do that. Working collaboratively together in a positive environment is a way of being role models for our students. I am pleased to announce our committee for 2018 as follows:

**President:** Mark Hayes

**Vice President:** Peta Garrahy

**Treasurer:** Fran Prowse

**Secretary:** Amelia Bastian

**Canteen:** Nikki Boxsell

Congratulations to all those parents who have taken on these important positions. We also thank the outgoing committee for their time and commitment over the past year.

### NAPLAN Testing

Our school will be one of around 500 schools in NSW that will be transitioning to NAPLAN Online this year. This means our students in years 3 and 5 will complete the NAPLAN assessments online this year rather than with pencil and paper.

The Year 3 writing test will continue to be paper-based, but all other Year 3 NAPLAN tests will be online. Last year we participated in a school readiness test to prepare for the transition to NAPLAN Online. Our experience with the school readiness test confirmed that our school is ready to transition to NAPLAN Online in 2018.

Our teachers and students will be involved in preparation and practice activities in the lead up to NAPLAN this year. This will include participation in a practice test during March, where students will have a further opportunity to become familiar with the types of questions they will be asked in NAPLAN Online.

Included in this newsletter is the latest fact sheet for parents and carers. More information about NAPLAN Online can be found on the NSW Department of Education's NAPLAN Online website:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/student-assessment/naplan-online/getting-ready/parent-information>

Kind regards

Judy Elks

## TOP TEN LENTEN PROMISES

### Things to Surrender

**Grumpiness** – irritability is a choice. We can choose to be grumpy and hang on to our right to be foul-tempered, or we can choose to be pleasant and good humoured.

**Blame** – when things go wrong, stop looking for a scapegoat. Practice acceptance and responsibility.

**Superiority** – A judgmental attitude is like a rotting corpse – it spreads it's bile over everyone in criticism and put downs.

**Gossip** – resist taking delight in someone else's failure. Protect their reputation and let the bad news stop with you.

**Vanity** – give up self-obsession and the fantasy that the world revolves around you. Start revolving your life around God and you'll find more joy than you ever dreamed.

**Self-pity** – everyone has to deal with setbacks and disappointments. Self-pity won't change your circumstances; it just makes you feel powerless.

**Resentment** – unforgiveness and resentment hangs over a person's life like dark thunder clouds. It makes your life gloomy and your presence unpleasant. It's not worth the cost.

**Tiredness** – if you're always tired, go to bed early. Be self-disciplined and resist the TV, internet or other recreation that steals your sleep. And if you choose not to, then at least stop whining about how tired you are! (Parents of young children exempted!)

**Busyness** – you have all the time you could ever need for the things that are important to you. Stop using a lack of time as an excuse for neglecting relationships or your health.

**Cynicism** – it's easier to be cynical than it is to be optimistic and hope-filled. Take the path less travelled.



### Look out for next week's Newsletter for 'Where to from here?'

Lyn Herden  
REC

### SCHOOL MASSES

There will be a whole school Mass this Friday 2 March at 9:10am. All welcome.

### **O'CONNOR CATHOLIC COLLEGE 'S HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL**

Our Year 3-6 students have been invited to view O'Connor Catholic College's matinee school performance "High School Musical" on Friday 9 March. The students will travel by bus to and from this event with students from St Patricks Walcha. O'Connor Catholic College will supply the bus transport and discount the cost of tickets. Tickets for our students are \$5 per child. The bus will collect our students after our Friday Mass and return them after lunch. Please complete the permission note within this newsletter and return it to school as soon as possible.

### **O'CONNOR CATHOLIC COLLEGE**

### **ENROLMENTS FOR YEAR 7, 2019 CLOSE MONDAY APRIL 9 2018**

O'Connor Catholic College extends an invitation for students seeking enrolment into Year 7 in 2019. The first round of Year 7 applications for this year will close on **Monday 9 April**. Fully completed application forms and the \$50 application fee need to be lodged at the College on or before **Monday 9 April**. After this date, the College will open up applications to the wider community. Contact the Enrolment Officer, Mrs Gemma Creagan, on 6772 1666 or [gcreagan@oconnor.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gcreagan@oconnor.nsw.edu.au) for an application pack and/or more information.

### WII GAAY

Next week Zoe Walters and Ethan Walters will be attending the Wii Gaay camp. We wish them all the best and hope they have a great week of fun and exciting learning activities.

### INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY

This Friday our Year 6 girls and Mrs Herden will attend the International Women's Day event at the Uralla Bowling Club. The Uralla Shire Council hosts this event each year and invites female school leaders and staff to attend. This year the guest speaker will be Ms Caitlyn Furlong from ABC Tamworth.

### SAMBA EXPERIENCE

On Wednesday the 14th March at 1:30 our school will host a visiting musician Tom Harding. Tom is a gifted musician with a passion for sharing music with everyone. His teaching style is energetic, charismatic and supportive; his infectious enthusiasm for samba and music will shine through in every single workshop he leads. Students will come away feeling energised and enthused.

He believes that we are all musical, and by simply taking the pressure out and putting the joy back in, we can all play. Although music is an art and a science, it is also a game for many players where no one loses.

In this energetic, fast paced and entirely "hands-on" workshop using Brazilian rhythms and instruments. The rhythms are challenging, achievable and produce a powerful groove. No prior musical knowledge is needed, just energy and enthusiasm.

This experience is being offered to all students K-6. The PT&F have helped fund this event and as a result the cost has been reduced to \$5 per child.

Please complete permission note within this newsletter and return it to school as soon as possible.

### STEP DAY O'CONNOR

On Thursday 15th March our Year 6 students will participate in their first STEP Day at O'Connor Catholic College. There will be a bus available to take the students down and back. The bus will leave from St Joseph's at 9:30am and return before buses in the afternoon.

Please make sure you have signed and returned notes for this event.

### COLES SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS

If you have any of the Coles vouchers from your shopping please send them in to school. Thankyou.

### YEARS 3-6 NEWS

Last Wednesday we all had a Chinese feast to celebrate Chinese/Luna New Year.

We have learnt that Chinese New Year is a traditional and very important Chinese holiday. Food is a very important part of celebrations and we shared some interesting Chinese food like lychees, fortune cookies, mandarins, rice crackers. Some of these foods we hadn't tried before. "I was glad to try new things" said Sienna.



**ASSEMBLY WEEKS 3 & 4**

Congratulations to these students who were presented with their awards at the Friday assemblies on 16th and 23rd February.

**Principals Awards:**

**Primary** Zoe Walters

**Infants** Samantha Munzenrieder & Jade Redmond

**Class Awards:**

**Primary** Malakye, Brittany Doran & Kaitlyn Walters

**Infants** Cohen Hannaford & Ethan Wooldridge

Our next assembly will be held this Friday at 2:45pm.

All welcome.



**Dates to Remember**

**Fri 2 Mar:** International Women's Day  
**Fri 9 Mar:** O'Connor Catholic College High School Musical Yr 3—6  
**Wed 14 Mar:** Samba Experience  
**Thur 15 Mar:** STEP Day @ O'Connor for Yr 6 students  
**Fri 16 Mar:** Opening of Rotary Art Show  
**Wed 21 Mar:** Rotary Art Show visit  
**Thu 22 Mar:** Lantern Making Workshop

**TERM DATES 2018**

**Term 1:** Students return Tue 30 January. Last day Fri 13 April.  
**Term 2:** Mon 30 April—Fri 6 July.  
**Term 3:** Mon 23 July—Fri 28 September.  
**Term 4:** Mon 15 October—Fri 21 December.  
 (Pupil free days to be advised)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
**8 March:**  
 Seth Munzenrieder

