Pentecost Sunday 20th May

St Joseph's School Newsletter

Ph 0267 784063 Fax 0267 783010
Email: admin@stjosephsuralla.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.stjosephsuralla.catholic.edu.au

23 May 2018
Term 2 Week 4

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

St Joseph's Annual School Improvement Plan

Each year the Staff collaborate to develop our Annual School Improvement Plan. This plan is based on our school vision and student data. This Plan determines the goals we are striving to achieve this year. Our goals cover the areas of **Faith Formation** and **Student Learning**.

Our goals this year are:

Faith Formation

GOAL *To explicitly teach the Core Catholic Principles and Values embedded within each Key Learning Area.*

Student Learning

GOAL *To improve numeracy outcomes for K-6 students*

GOAL *To incorporate Digital Technologies within Science and Technology, and Maths.*

Faith Formation

Catholic schools have both an academic and religious purpose. It is this religious purpose that sets us apart from other schooling systems. Our schools share in the Diocesan mission to Proclaim, Witness and Serve so as to shape our students as well-formed individuals who have a Catholic framework for living in the world of today. The mandatory embedding of Core Catholic Principles and Values is explicit in teaching and learning activities in all areas of the curriculum.

The core Catholic Principles and Values can be broadly categorised under four principles,

- *The Principle of the Primacy of God*
- *The Principle of the Sanctity of Life*
- *The Principle of Fidelity in Relationship*
- *The Principle of the Common Good.*

From these four overarching principles, key values can then be identified. The explicit teaching of these principles and values will allow each student to grow in their understanding, so that they can develop a meaningful framework on which to build their future lives.

Student Learning

A focus on learning in Maths. This year we aim to improve each and every child's academic progress in Maths. Teachers all working collaboratively to enhance learning opportunities for the students. In order to do this the staff:

- *Collect and closely analyse data on each student.*
- *Will unpack the Maths syllabus to identify essential learnings*
- *Will improve how we deliver our lessons, knowing that engagement is key to student learning*

Our final goal is to Incorporate Digital Technologies within Science and Technology, and Maths.

****

NAPLAN

I would like to congratulate our students on the very calm way they have addressed the NAPLAN testing last week. Well done, everyone!

Kind regards
Judy Elks

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK AND EXCURSION TO ARMIDALE

During Week 5 we will celebrate Catholic schools week. The theme this year is ***Serve. Learn. Lead.***

As part of these celebrations the students will travel to Armidale by bus on Tuesday 29 May to attend the Spirit of Catholic Education Mass in the Cathedral.

Our plan for the day is to leave school at 9:00am. The K-2 students will visit NERAM while the 3-6 students will complete the Sound Trail around the Cathedral precinct. All students will have morning tea in the park followed by Mass in the Cathedral at 11am. We will then have lunch in the park followed by an organised tour of the Cathedral. The students will return to school in time for buses. Any parents who would like to attend the Spirit of Catholic Education Mass are most welcome to celebrate with us at the 11:00am Mass in the Cathedral.

If you have not already done so, please return permission notes as soon as possible.

PENTECOST REFLECTION

Last Sunday the Church throughout the world celebrated Pentecost Sunday commemorating the day when the Holy Spirit first descended upon the disciples of Jesus in Jerusalem. The following prayer is a way of reflecting on the meaning of Pentecost and its relevance for us here today:

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost
Come, Holy Spirit of the Great South Land.
O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way.
Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.
Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.
Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.
Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age.
Amen.

SCHOOL MASS

There will be a whole school Mass this Friday at St Joseph's Church at 9:10am. All welcome.

LIFE ED VAN

The Life Education Van will be at our school **tomorrow Thursday 24 May**. The cost of this for parents will be $5 per child. Thank you to the PT&F for subsidising the other half of the cost. If you have not already done so, please return permission notes tomorrow.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Our next SAC meeting will be held next Monday 28 May at 6:30pm in the staffroom.

UNIFORMS FOR SALE

6 X SHORT SLEEVED GREEN SUMMER SHIRTS
6 X LONG SLEEVED GREEN WINTER SHIRTS
3 X SCHOOL JUMPERS WITH CREST
2 X GREEN TRACK PANTS

ALL AS NEW
$10 PER ITEM (OR NEAR OFFER)

CONTACT JO MCDOWALL ON 0474 054 264

GARDEN NEWS

The garden sessions have continued this term each Thursday afternoon from 2:00pm—3:00pm. We have changed the groupings this term. The K-2 class will be in the garden each fortnight for half an hour. For the odd weeks the Year 3-6 group will be in the garden for an hour session. On the even weeks the K-2 group will be in the garden for half an hour. If you would like your child to bring in a change of clothes or a large shirt to put over their school clothes in the garden so they don't get dirty, please send them with your child. If any parents/ grandparents would like to volunteer to help in the garden, your support would be very welcome. Please feel free to join in.

Tomorrow K-1-2 (next week Primary) will be making a terrarium to grow sprouts in. Please send in a clear plastic strawberry punnet or soda/juice bottle for your child.

We would also appreciate any supplies of newspapers, plastic pots and punnets whenever you have some to send in to school. Thank you!

THALGARRAH EXCURSION

Later this term on 14 June, both K-2 and 3-6 will be visiting Thalgarrah Environmental Education Centre.

K-2 are learning about sustainability as part of their Science unit. The centre's teachers will be leading the students through practical activities in the bush encouraging them to learn the importance of caring for our environment.

3-6 are focusing on our next History Unit – *Our Place – Then and Now*. Specialist teachers will guide us throughout the day as we experience and learn about life of our area's first inhabitants, the Anaiwan people.

For more information about the centre feel free to access their website.

http://www.thalgarrah-e.schools.nsw.edu.au/home

Permission notes and final details of cost (bus fare and entry fee) will be sent home in next week's newsletter.

STEP DAY AT O'CONNOR

Next Thursday 31 May, our Year 5 students will participate in their first Stage 3 Transition Enrichment Program (STEP) Day at O'Connor Catholic College. A bus will be provided for the students from St Patrick's Walcha and St Joseph's to travel together. The students will be supervised by a teacher from St Patrick's Walcha. The bus will leave school after 9:00am and return before buses in the afternoon. **Year 5 students have been given permission notes today to return as soon as possible.**

PT&F STREET STALL

Our annual Street Stall will be running during the **week commencing Monday 25 June**. This is one of the main fundraisers for the school and we will need as many helpers as possible to man the stall for the week. We also will be looking for saleable goods—cakes, slices, jams, preserves, craft items, good quality bric-a-brac etc. We are calling on all parents, grandparents and friends to help out wherever you can. A volunteer's form is included in this newsletter. Please consider how best you can help. Thank you.

Ph 0267 784063 Fax 0267 783010 Email: admin@stjosephsuralla.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.stjosephsuralla.catholic.edu.au

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Congratulations to these students who were presented with their awards at last Friday's assembly.

Primary Learning Studio:
Charlotte Fletcher and Callie White.

Infants Learning Studio:
Chelsea Doran, Harrison, Jackson and Emerson McDowall.

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

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

TRANSITION
OPEN MORNING

CLAIM THE DATE

Wednesday 20 June
9:00am—10:00am

- Information presentation
- Tour of facilities
- Morning tea follows
- All welcome

Dates to Remember

Thu 24 May: Life Ed Van Visit
Mon 28 May: SAC Meeting 6:30pm.
Tue 29 May: Catholic Schools Week Mass in the Cathedral
Thu 31 May: Yr 5 STEP Day @ O'Connor
Fri 1 Jun: NECOM Piano Trio Workshop
Mon 11 Jun: Public Holiday
Wed 13 Jun: Yr 6 RE Test
Thu 14 Jun: Science Excursion
Wed 20 Jun: Transition Open Morning

Tue 26, Wed 27 Jun: P/T Interviews
Fri 29 Jun: Pupil Free Day

TERM DATES 2018

Term 2:
Mon 30 April—Fri 6 July.
Term 3:
Mon 23 July—Fri 28 September.
Term 4:
Mon 15 October—Fri 21 Dec.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

27 May: Ethan Wooldridge