From the Principal...

Dear parents & friends of St Joseph’s School, Clare,

It is often with mixed emotions that I write the last newsletter - there is much that has happened during 2014, so much to celebrate, still lots to do & clearly we have had to be spending a lot of time in preparation for 2015.

To see the Year 7’s return from their 2 day visit to the High School and to observe the changes in the kindy students who have been transitioning into our school for the past 15 weeks is indicative of the mixed emotions - one commencing, one finishing.

With the myriad of events that are occurring it is important at this time of year for me to be reminded of what the Year 1 class taught me at this year’s concert- the real meaning of Christmas - everything I do needs to be put into context.

On the front page of this fortnight’s newsletter are important dates for the remainder of the year & the upcoming year. I hope they are of help.

STAFFING 2015

Congratulations to Michelle Edmondson who has won the position of .2 Reception teacher and also .2 librarian. As a result the staffing for 2015 will be as follows:

Year 7 Bil Lokan, Briony Ackland
    Delvene Mathie
Year 6 Alex Callery
Year 5 Chris Slattery
Year 4 Anita Calandra
Year 3/4 Brendan Ackland
Year 2/3 Sarah Linn
Year 2 Sarah Lawson, Chris Schmaal
Year 1 Leanne Nield, Jenny Vine
Rec/1 Debra Lemon
Rec    Kate Mensforth, Michelle Edmondson
Library/Special Ed/Key Literacy Teacher
    Ann Grbin
Library Michelle Edmondson
Education Support Officer
    Sue Wurst, Jenny Faulkner,
    Frankie Sandow
Bursar Sarah Werfel
Admin Helen Smith

FAREWELL & THANKS

Congratulations to Kylie Smith who will commence her role as Deputy Principal at St Mark’s R-7, best wishes to Anna Eime as she commences her well deserved retirement (although she has told me she has renewed her teacher registration just in case), Belinda Dare has resigned from her position here to continue working at Vineyard Lutheran School whilst Elise Moroney will be focusing on her photography & doing relief teaching for a 12 month period.

BOOKLIST/REPORTS/CLASS LISTS

Enclosed with the newsletter are 3 important documents. Firstly, Reports - I’d like to thank the staff for the detail & effort they put into preparing this summation of your child/ren’s second semester of learning.

Secondly, there will be a booklist (except for Reception and Year 7 students). One thing that we pride ourselves on doing at St Joseph’s is shopping locally whenever possible. As a result, we purchase our students’ stationery through Clare Newsagency.

To assist Brett & Tammy to keep the purchasing price down and to ensure all students present with the same books for learning, we request that you don’t
make any changes to the booklist - the teachers have reviewed the lists for this year’s group of students & made alterations accordingly.

The booklist will be available to collect from the Newsagent from Monday 12 January. Please don’t ask for them to be delivered prior. If there is an issue with them being collected, please contact me & I will ensure they are here on the first day of school.

Thirdly, your child’s class list for 2015 will be attached. If you have any concerns or queries, I ask you to re-read the information included in the last newsletter about Composite Classes & then revisit the list. I can assure you that many hours of thought, via a number of people, have gone into the decision making which we believe delivers the best outcomes for everyone.

UNIFORM SHOP
Reminder Uniform Shop will be open: FRIDAY 23 JANUARY 8.30 - 11.00 am. Uniform Shop will also be open first week of Term 1 Tuesday - Friday 8.30-8.50am.

ST JOSEPH’S SWIMMING CARNIVAL
What a great day we had for our swimming carnival last Friday. Beautiful weather and lots of participation with fabulous team spirit. The day was action-packed with students involved in over 150 events. Freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly events along with relays and novelty events were enjoyed by all. Ribbons were awarded to the top 3 place-getters in the Primary races which was a great initiative. The annual staff, parents, students, old scholars event was keenly contested with the old scholars taking the honours in the mighty noodle race. MacKillop won the Junior Primary section with Cleary taking out the Primary honours. The overall result was incredibly close with the winner for the day being Cleary by 1 point from MacKillop. Captains Liam Edmondson and Chelsea Kelly accepted the shield and thanked everyone for a great day.

Many thanks to Mrs Grbin, Mrs Vine & Mr Slattery for organising and coordinating a great day. Many thanks to the P & F for providing a delicious healthy lunch & to Little Red Grape for donating the bread rolls. Congratulations to all who participated and all parents who assisted in any way on the day.

CONGRATULATIONS
David, Peggy, Bridie, William & Malachy Mitchell welcome a little brother, Rory Patrick.

God bless,
Peter Shearer.

You Can Do It

......... In The Yard

You may recall that this term we launched the You Can Do It Playground Raffle at St Joseph’s.

Each play period teachers have been on the look-out in the playground for students who demonstrate the key elements of the You Can Do It Program such as Confidence, Getting Along, Organisation, Persistence, Resilience or one of the 12 Positive Habits of Mind. Each student noted for these positive behaviours is ‘entered’ in a special weekly raffle which is drawn at the Friday morning line-up. The winners are acknowledged before the whole school and receive a special certificate and wristband in recognition of their positive play.

It has been very encouraging to see just how many weekly entrants we’ve had.

Congratulations to all the weekly winners so far:

Week 3 Greta Pratt
Week 4 Olivia Pols
Week 5 Jock Nicholls
Week 6 Elouise Nordhausen
Week 7 Charlotte Ruddenklau
Week 8 Tess Lawson

A special Thank You also to the 2 student representatives on The YCDI Co-ordinating Group, Lucienne Ruddenklau and Max Hart-Lamont, who have so ably conducted the weekly draws.
Mass Times

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Sevenhill</td>
<td>6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Clare</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Volunteers needed</td>
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<td>14 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Clare</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Volunteers needed</td>
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Christmas Message

As the school year draws to a close, it is nice to stop and reflect on the positive achievements of 2014. Again, we as a school community can take pride in the many activities we have undertaken in the wider community to help others. The level of care and respect for each other and for those around us shows evidence of God’s love in action.

In our preparation for Christmas it is important that we think about what is truly important in our lives. The birth of Jesus offers great hope – it helps us to better relate to living and understanding God’s love for us. With God’s love we can become more loving and caring people. May the blessings of Christmas be with you all during this Christmas Season. May you enjoy time with your family and friends, and travel safely over the holiday break.

Friday Mass

A Parish Mass will be held this Friday at 12pm. All are warmly invited to attend.

Giving Tree

A huge thank you goes to our school community for the wonderful support shown to this year’s ‘Giving Tree’. The staff from the ‘Moore Street Centre for the Homeless’ were overwhelmed by your generosity.

Children’s Christmas Eve Mass

6.30pm Sevenhill

Thank you to all families who have responded to helping in this Mass. Jobs have been allocated and a practice held to prepare the children for this special celebration. If you end up being able to attend this service, your children will still have an opportunity to join in.

Archbishop Coming

Archbishop Wilson will come to the parish on Friday 20 February. I ask anyone who would like to come along, to put aside that evening and come to Mass at 6:30pm with supper afterwards.

We will be joined by people and priests from the region (Barossa to Yorke Peninsula). It is the Friday after Ash Wednesday, and the first of the Statant Masses that are part of the Archdioceses (our) preparation for Easter. The Archbishop also welcomes adults who are becoming Catholics at these Masses.

Fr Paul Fyfe SJ.

Communal Reconciliation for Advent

Clare - Wednesday 17, 7.30pm
Riverton - Monday 15, 7.30pm (tbc)

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24 December
6.30 pm - Sevenhill - Children’s Mass
7.00 pm - Marrabel
Christmas Day - Thursday 25 December
9.00 am - Riverton 9.30 am - Clare

End of Year Graduation Mass for Yr 7

This special celebration is a great way to recognise the contributions our Year 7 students have made to our school community throughout their time at St Joseph’s School.

It is requested that all students are present, with the exception of the Reception students, whose attendance is optional.

Where: St Aloysius Church, Sevenhill
Time: 6.30pm, Wednesday 10 December

All students need to arrive by 6.15pm. They will assemble on the lawns in front of the church with their class teacher. All students are to wear full summer uniform. We look forward to seeing you there!

Value of the Week

Value: Self Discipline
Action: Behave in a pleasant way when you feel hurt or angry.
The word of God: 1 Peter 1:13 – “Prepare your minds for action, be self-controlled and focused on God’s ways.”

Thought of the Week

Kindness is the oil that takes the friction out of life.

Paula Clark
APRIM

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AROUND THE SCHOOL

Swimming Carnival 2014
Yr 5 Art Gallery
Spectacular

Last Tuesday and Wednesday, the Year 5 class showcased its annual Art Gallery. Throughout the two days students within the school had the opportunity to visit the Gallery and vote on their favourite pieces. The Gallery was divided into 5 exhibits; Tree Art, Idiom, Portrait, Photography and Free Choice. Each student in Year 5 entered a piece into every category.

On Tuesday after school the Gallery was open for parents and friends to view. Visitors enjoyed the complimentary refreshments while they were able to browse through and enjoy the work on display. It was an absolute success with over 360 people visiting the Gallery.

The Science room and deck proved a perfect location for the Gallery and the Year 5 students did themselves proud through their presentation of outstanding quality art pieces.

We thank all parents who donated wine and nibble platters for the evening; it was greatly appreciated and added to the evening’s festivities. A special thank you to Karen Slattery and Georgina Worthington who set up and worked tirelessly throughout the evening.
Voting is in and here are the results from the Year 5 Art Gallery:

**Portrait Art Winners**

1st Edward Michael (25% of the vote)  
2nd Molly McMurray (12.5%)  
3rd Emma Lawson (7.5%)

**Free Choice Winners**

1st Shadeika Harrison (10.8% of the vote)  
2nd Emma Lawson (8.3%)  
3rd Bella Rawlings (7.2%)

**Tree of life Winners**

1st Grace Frick (16.1% of the vote)  
2nd Clodagh Barry (15.5%)  
3rd Kelsie MacDonald (8.8%)

**Idiom Winners**

1st Elsa Taylor (21.6% of the vote)  
2nd Wez Paulett (11.8%)  
3rd Grace Frick (6.9%)

**Name Art Winners**

1st Max Fitzgerald (22.2% of the vote)  
2nd Emma Lawson (14.7%)  
3rd Wez Paulett (8%)
Here’s how it works:

1. Register at the Clare Valley Discovery Centre or the Saddleworth Library and Community Centre and pick up a reading log.

2. Read 10 or more books before the end of the summer school holidays (January 30, 2015).

3. Return your completed reading log to the library and collect your prize pack, then go into the draw for local and state prizes!

Free for children aged 3-16 years, starts 1st December 2014.

Christmas Activities 2014

Clare Public Library Service presents

Who for: 3-12 year olds

Where: Clare Valley Discovery Centre

When: 2.30pm

Cost: FREE!

Tuesday 16th December
Make a fanned Christmas Dove

Thursday 18th December
Make a Santa treat box

Tuesday 23rd December
Make a Reindeer headband

www.summerreadingclub.org.au