From the Principal...

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

Welcome back to another school year. I’d like to take the opportunity to welcome the many new families to our school.

We welcome:
Reena & Navneet Aggarwal and their children Vedanshi (Rec) and Nishchay (Yr 5)
Alicia & Dominic Cash and their children Billie (Rec) and Annabella (Yr 4)
Keli Shanahan & Greg Cooley and Max (Rec)
Leanne & Graham Lang and Zoe (Rec), Aimee (Yr 2) and Megan (Yr 3)
Lisa Koo & Paul Leditschke and Amalie (Rec)
Dashanka & Jitendev Soodan and Sahyl (Rec)
Kerrie & Scott Weckert and Lenny (Rec)
Vanessa Marsden & Benjamin Brown-Graham and Oscar (Rec)
Amelia & Simon Byles and Milton (Rec)
Karyn & Jeremy Heath and Dale (Rec)
Kristy Lewis & Mark McCarthy and Jordie (Rec)
Natalie Sweet & Jason Ryan and Matilda (Rec)
Anna Milne & Paul Salopek and Summer (Rec)
(see photos in this newsletter)

I trust they will find the St Joseph’s School Community a warm and friendly place which goes out of its way to be welcoming and inclusive.

PREPARING FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

The first couple of days of Term 1 have been really smooth which is a testament to the work and preparation the staff have committed to the school. Whilst all staff have been ensuring they are fully prepared and have presented their learning areas as warm, welcoming and vibrant spaces, many teachers have spent weeks in at school in preparation. Special thanks to Jodie Tonkin who once again has coordinated and overseen the grounds maintenance, including two Bocce courts and I think you’ll agree the grounds are looking fantastic.

During the holiday period we installed two new interactive boards (Yr 7 & Yr 3). These are the newer model which are mobile and have many new features - pop your head in and have a look. We also have purchased 40 new notebook computers which will be utilised in various parts of the school. I would like to thank the P&F for all their fundraising efforts as some of the monies they have raised went to supporting these initiatives. Your hardwork ready does benefit the students.

CALENDARS

Attached is this term’s School Calendar. Our goal is to try to give you advanced notice of all school happenings as much as possible. Unfortunately, by getting this out very early it can be subject to some changes and additions. These will be updated on the front of each newsletter. This year we have given some advance notice of some long term “special” dates for your diary.

The year 4-7 students will also be receiving a 2017 SAPSASA Calendar. If you have any queries, please don’t hesitate to contact Peter or use the website www.decd.sa.gov.au/sport.

ICEBLOCKS

Iceblocks will be available to purchase at lunch times Monday-Thursday for 30 cents. We request that students only purchase one and have money for just one, as it can lead to unwanted peer group pressure. Parents have commented how successfully iceblocks can be used as a treat and reward and not something that becomes an expectation. Thank you to the Yr 7 students and Jen Vine for organising this “treat”.

GENEROSITY

At St Joseph’s one of our aims is to be intimately involved in the community by supporting and hopefully, in turn, being supported. We have a proud tradition of shopping locally whenever we can. This often pays dividends for us not only by supporting local businesses to thrive but also in other ways. An example of this is a recent gesture by Mitre 10, who donated a significant number of tools.

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Also thanks need to be extended to Nick Jones at Rural Co who continues to assist us with storage of furniture. Much appreciated.
SCHOOL NEWS

Each year we try to ensure we are improving our effectiveness and efficiencies in the way we do things. This is particularly important in the area of administration. All our decisions are influenced by Catholic Education Office, State/Legal requirements and primarily the safety of our students. As the Catholic Education Office moves towards electronic roll books (recording absentees) we are upgrading our processes for a smooth transition. To assist us, when your child is late or absent, please contact the front office ASAP or let the class teacher know. Follow this up with a note in the student’s diary or communication book. This allows the teacher to fill in the code correctly otherwise it is recorded as “unexplained”, which doesn’t provide the teacher with any information and may eliminate a chance to assist or better understand the student.

Your cooperation in this area would be much appreciated and also result in a more effective and efficient administration process.

THE ART OF TEACHING

Another activity our teachers did during their preparation week was to explore what the definition “The Art of Teaching” means to them. You may be interested to know what their views were:

- Sharing of knowledge
- Providing the tools for students to seek, find and discover knowledge
- Inspiring a life-long love to keep learning
- Involves the teaching of manners, respect, values, trust and honesty
- Is relational
- Highlights patience and communication
- Is fun, engaging and use a sense of humour
- Is tailored, responsive, inspiring and caring
- Is best done in collaboration and partnership
- Provides the skills required for the future
- Is opportunistic
- Has a sense of discovery, wonder and therefore enlightenment
- Recognises and builds on strengths
- Makes the learner feel important / special
- Is spontaneous and flexible
- Involves people being ‘present’, two way listening
- Passion, creativity and inclusive
- Encourages risk-taking and ‘having a go’
- Provides opportunities to learn from mistakes
- Safe and nurturing
- Community orientated
- Involves positive role models

All in all fairly straight forward really!! I’m sure you will join me in supporting the teaching staff to strive to be the best that they can be in mastering “The Art of Teaching”.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Emma and Leigh Meaney on the birth of Codie, a brother for Sophie and Ellie. Also congratulations go to Carly and Aaron Bradley on the safe arrival of baby Pearce, a brother for Sophie and Ellie. Congratulations go to Emma and Leigh Meaney on the birth of Codie, a brother for Sophie and Ellie. Also congratulations go to Carly and Aaron Bradley on the safe arrival of baby Pearce, a brother for Sophie and Ellie. Also congratulations go to Carly and Aaron Bradley on the safe arrival of baby Pearce, a brother for Sophie and Ellie. Also congratulations go to Carly and Aaron Bradley on the safe arrival of baby Pearce, a brother for Sophie and Ellie.

OLD SCHOLAR SUCCESSES

It has been very heartening to hear the success of so many of our old scholars who have just completed year 12. Ultimately it is about students gaining an ATAR which allows them to choose a tertiary course which enables them to follow their dreams. I’m pleased to hear that most were successful whilst others successfully completed their studies and have chosen to commence full-time employment.

This year there were some old scholars who excelled: Josh Smith gained 99.95 (which is the highest possible score). He will be acknowledged by the Governor at an awards presentation shortly. Josh has chosen to study Medicine, Jordy Purvis gained 98.0 and will study Physiotherapy, Kate Werfel gained 93.45 and will study Veterinary BioScience, whilst Xanthe Midwinter gained 92 and will study a double degree of International Studies and Arts.

It was really pleasing to be contacted by some of these families who acknowledged the great “grounding” that their child received here at St Joseph’s.

If you have any other successes, information (and photos) regarding old scholars or current students, I would love to receive them.

PE UNIFORM

Just a reminder that P.E. uniform needs to be worn on Wednesday and Thursday as the Yr 4-7 students have P.E. on Wednesday whilst the R-3’s day is Thursday, therefore no P.E. uniform to be worn on Tuesday.

Thank you to all parents who have done such a great job at sending their child/ren to school in correct school uniform. Much appreciated.

Thanks also to our uniform shop helpers, who do such an excellent job in supplying and selling the uniforms.

STUDENT CLASSROOM ASSISTANCE/FUNDING

As we commence another school year it is worth noting components of our school funding model. At this stage, we have 6 of our 250 students attracting extra funds to assist the school in catering for their learning needs.

The reality is we provide a lot of other students with assistance in 1:1 support or small groups and through programs such as QuickSmart, Reading Recovery and Rainbow Reading. These are currently resourced through our general operating funds and focus on individual children’s needs. We use information from the data and discussions that were held on the Pupil Free Day at the end of last year, to determine how best to resource these programs - ESO time, Equipment, etc.

Our only guarantee, on an ongoing basis, is that our ‘funded children’ will continue to receive support for their learning needs. Under Ann Grbin’s guidance and discussions with myself, Sarah Werfel (Bursar), School Board and Leadership, additional resources will be allocated to continue our programs where possible. Our goal is to assist everyone - hence the small class sizes and overstaffing.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

If opportunity doesn’t knock, build a door.

God bless,

Peter Shearer
OUR NEW STUDENTS

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL!!!
Welcome back for the start of the 2017 school Year. I trust you all had a happy and holy Christmas / New Year period with family and friends.

A warm welcome is extended to all new families and children to St Joseph’s school this year. I look forward to continuing to work with all families to support you in bringing your children up in the Catholic faith.

If you would like to make a time to catch up with me at any stage, I am available from 1.30pm onwards each day. On Monday and Wednesday afternoons I will be in the Reading Recovery room, which is located in the Junior Primary area of the school, and on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday I will be in the APRIM room in the front office.

CLASS MASS/ LITURGIES - PARENT SUPPORT

Throughout the year each class is involved in either a Class Liturgy (children in Rec - Yr 2/3 Classes) or Class Mass (children in Yr 3 - 7 Classes). The students from each class with the support of their teachers, plan, prepare and run these liturgical celebrations.

Each class also takes part in a Mass with their Buddy Class once a year. The two buddy classes are responsible for the organization and running of their Mass.

These are very special occasions for your children and I strongly encourage you to set aside the dates of these in your diary so that you are able to come along and support the faith journey of your children.

Masses are held on a Friday at 12pm in St Michael’s Church, Clare, and are between three quarters of an hour to an hour long.

Liturgies are held on a Wednesday at 9am either in the child’s classroom or in St Michael’s Church. The Liturgies go for about twenty to thirty minutes.

Throughout the year most classes also visit ‘Carinya’ Nursing home, usually on the third Tuesday of the month and take part in a Liturgy service with the residents. The liturgies commence at 10am and run for approximately thirty minutes.

The dates of these liturgical celebrations can be found on the term calendar on our school website and you will also receive notification from your child’s classroom teacher of when these celebrations are to take place.

VALUE OF THE WEEK:

Value: Friendliness

Program Achieve Key: Getting Along

Action: Be welcoming and friendly, say hello.

The word of God: John 5:13

“Love each other as I have loved you.”

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

Life is a combination of success and failure – BOTH are needed.

UPCOMING FRIDAY MASS:

A Parish Mass will be held this Friday, at 12pm in St Michael’s Church, Clare.

FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY

A Yr 3/4-Yr 7 Mass will be held on Friday 10 February, 12pm at St Michael’s Church, Clare.

This Mass will be celebrated by the children in Mrs Roberts, Mrs Edmondson/Mr Packer, Miss Kaeding, Mr Slattery, Mr and Mrs Ackland and Miss Whittall’s classes.

FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY

A Mass will be held for the students from Reception to Year 2/3 on Friday 17 February, 12pm at St Michael’s Church, Clare. This Mass will be celebrated by the children in Mrs Lemon, Ms Lloyd/Mrs Mensforth, Mrs Vine/Mrs Nield, Mrs Lawson/Mrs Weckert and Miss Linn’s classes.

WELCOME MASS/ LEAD MEMBERS INDUCTION

On Friday February 24 (Week 4), we will formally welcome all new students and their families to St Joseph’s School at our Friday Mass. This special ritual acknowledges the wonderful gift of each new student, and their family, to our faith community.

At this Mass we will also induct our new LEAD representatives for each class. The Lead representatives are elected into the role by their peers and take on the role of representing their class at LEAD meetings to share their concerns and celebrations in being a member of the St Joseph’s School community.

All parents and friends are warmly invited to attend the Mass which will be held in St Michael’s Church Clare at 12pm.

CHILD FRIENDLY OPPORTUNITIES AT WEEKEND MASSES

Each weekend at the Sunday 5pm Mass at Clare, Children’s Liturgy is held. Children are invited to go out during the readings (Liturgy of the Word) with Mr Shearer. During this time they are able to take part in breaking open the day’s readings in a child friendly manner. This is a great opportunity for children to be able to understand the readings at their own level of development.
CHILD FRIENDLY OPPORTUNITIES AT WEEKEND
MASSES cont...
On the third Sunday of the month a Family Mass is held in Clare at the 9am Mass. Children are invited to take part in this Mass in the weeks before via an invitation that is sent home from school. Child-friendly music, which is also used at school Masses, is played at this Mass. Following the Mass is an opportunity for children and their families to share morning tea together. Why not invite another family to attend this Mass with you?
Please look out for the invitation which will be coming out shortly for the Family Mass which will be held on 19 February.

SOUTHERN CROSS
The current edition of the Catholic newspaper put out by the Archdiocese called, ‘The Southern Cross,’ is available at: www.thesoutherncross.org.au

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2017
The Sacramental program will again this year be run through a joint program between the school, the parish and families.
This program is open to all children who have been baptized into the Catholic Church.

YEAR LEVELS FOR SACRAMENTS
Year 3 – Reconciliation
Year 4 – Confirmation and First Holy Communion

CONFIRMATION/ FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
MEETING: WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY - 7PM
The first Parent and Child meeting for children who will this year be preparing for the sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion will be held on Wednesday 22 February at 7pm in St Joseph’s School Library. The children will generally be in Year 4 this year and are required to have previously celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Catholic Church.

RECONCILIATION
Information will come out shortly inviting children, from Yr 3 and above, who have been baptized in the Catholic Church to prepare for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.

BAPTISM
Those seeking baptism for their children or receive into the Catholic Church (children who have already been baptized into another religious tradition, whose parents are willing to support them to join the Catholic faith) are invited to contact Fr Paul Fyfe on: 8843 4235 or 0427 566 324 to explore this opportunity.

God bless,
Paula Clark
APRIM
(Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission)

CANTEEN COORDINATOR REQUIRED
SUPPORTED ROLE

We are currently looking for a person, or persons, who might like to take on the role of Coordinator for the School Canteen which operates each Friday. You will have staff support, a committee to support you and an enormous amount of resources and proformas to assist you in undertaking this role.

If you think that this position might be something that you would like to take on, either on your own or with another parent, we would love to hear from you.

See Canteen page in this newsletter or contact Paula Clark for more information

Volunteers are vital in ensuring we are able to continue to provide this valuable service to our school community.
Welcome to and Acknowledgement of Country

1. What is a Welcome to Country?

Protocols for welcoming visitors to Country have been a part of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures for thousands of years. Despite the absence of fences or visible borders, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups had clear boundaries separating their Country from that of other groups. Crossing into another group’s Country required a request for permission to enter. When permission was granted the hosting group would welcome the visitors, offering them safe passage and protection of their spiritual being during the journey. While visitors were provided with a safe passage, they also had to respect the protocols and rules of the land owner group while on their Country.

Today, obviously much has changed, and these protocols have been adapted to contemporary circumstances. However, the essential elements of welcoming visitors and offering safe passage remain in place. A Welcome to Country occurs at the beginning of a formal event and can take many forms including singing, dancing, smoking ceremonies or a speech in traditional language or English. A Welcome to Country is delivered by Traditional Owners, or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have been given permission from Traditional Owners, to welcome visitors to their Country.

2. What is an Acknowledgment of Country?

An Acknowledgement of Country is an opportunity for anyone to show respect for Traditional Owners and the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country. It can be given by both non-Indigenous people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

There are no set protocols or wording for an Acknowledgement of Country, though often a statement may take the following forms.

General: I’d like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today. I would also like to pay my respects to Elders past and present.

Specific: I’d like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, the (people) of the (nation) and pay my respects to Elders past and present.

Similar to a Welcome to Country, an Acknowledgement of Country is generally offered at the beginning of a meeting, speech or formal occasion.
3. Why are Welcomes to Country and Acknowledgements of Country important?

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have experienced a long history of exclusion from Australian history books, the Australian flag, the Australian anthem and for many years, Australian democracy. This history of dispossession and colonisation lies at the heart of the disparity between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous Australians today. Including recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in events, meetings and national symbols is one part of ending the exclusion that has been so damaging. Incorporating welcoming and acknowledgement protocols into official meetings and events recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and Traditional Custodians of land. It promotes an ongoing connection to place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians and shows respect for Traditional Owners.

In Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, the meaning of Country is more than just ownership or connection to land, as Professor Mick Dodson explains:

“When we talk about traditional ‘Country’...we mean something beyond the dictionary definition of the word. For Aboriginal Australians...we might mean homeland, or tribal or clan area and we might mean more than just a place on the map. For us, Country is a word for all the values, places, resources, stories and cultural obligations associated with that area and its features. It describes the entirety of our ancestral domains. While they may no longer necessarily be the title-holders to land, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians are still connected to the Country of their ancestors and most consider themselves the custodians or caretakers of their land.”
Preparing your child for school or pre school

by Michael Grose

The early days of a school year can be hard work for some kids – it’s hard for some kids to stick to the rules and routines of school.

During the holidays children need to be able to tune out from school. A break from school is good for your child's mental health as well as giving them an opportunity to recharge their batteries. As holidays draw to a close it is useful to turn your child's attention to school and help him or her get ready for the year ahead. Some kids are excited by the prospect of going to school or pre school, whereas others are somewhat less thrilled that holidays are over and it's back to reality. Here some ideas to consider:

• Be positive about the year ahead, even if your child is apprehensive about some aspect of the coming year. Children often pick up the cues of their parents so your attitude to school or pre school, your child's teacher and learning can set the scene for a positive year ahead. Often children's fears and concerns about a particular grade level or class disappear on the first day.
• In the days leading up to the start of school or pre school begin to readjust children's routines in line with their routine they will experience when they start school. In particular, bedtimes and wake up times should resemble those of the school year.
• Children can participate in the purchase and preparation of uniforms, books and stationery for the coming year. School starters may even wear their uniform prior to the first day.
• Encourage discussion of school in a matter of fact manner and talk about possible friendships that they may renew or begin. Give children practice in becoming more independent at home particularly if they are in the early years of school.
• Be on time on the first day. This is important for children to help settle into class and not disrupt others or themselves. The start of the day is the most important part of the school day.

A word of warning: Don't be surprised if some young children are less than perfect when they come home from school in the first days of term. The early days of a school year can be hard work for some kids – it's hard for some kids to stick to the rules and routines of school. They often blow off some steam in the relative security of home. Be prepared for your patience and understanding may be stretched a little. It's good to remember that many kids save their worst behaviour for their parents!!
We have an opportunity which will enable you to provide a service to every child in the St Joseph’s School Community whilst also affording an opportunity to provide much needed funds.

We are currently looking for a person, or persons, who might like to take on the role of Coordinator for the School Canteen which operates each Friday. You will have staff support, a committee to support you and an enormous amount of resources and proformas to assist you in undertaking this role.

This is a great opportunity to show your children the benefits of volunteering time in order to assist the school community and an opportunity to have a say on how the canteen operates.

If you think that this position might be something that you would like to take on, either on your own or with another parent, we would love to hear from you.

Volunteers are vital in ensuring we are able to continue to provide this valuable service to our school community.

Contact: Paula Clark

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**KIDS IN THE KITCHEN**

**BOURBON CHICKEN... with no Bourbon 😊**

Welcome to another year of Kids In The Kitchen!

Thought we’d start off with a Chinese dish... Had this the other night and it was a winner all round...

910g boneless chicken thigh fillets, cut into bite size pieces
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 garlic clove, crushed
¼ teaspoon ginger
¼ teaspoon chilli flakes
¼ cup apple juice
1/3 cup light brown sugar
2 tablespoons tomato sauce
1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
½ cup water
1/3 cup soy sauce

2 teaspoons corn flour, mixed with a tiny bit of cold water (added at the end)

Heat oil in a large frypan. Add chicken pieces and cook until lightly browned. Remove the chicken.
Add remaining ingredients, heating over medium heat until well mixed and dissolved.
Return chicken to the pan and bring to a hard boil.
Add corn flour mixed with water. Stir in thoroughly. This should thicken the sauce.
Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes.
Serve with rice and green vegetables.
COMMUNITY NEWS

GIVE AWAY

2 x Female Kittens
Give away to good homes
Frankie 0439 430 091

GIVING BLOOD FEELS GOOD
Every donation can save three lives

The Blood Service Mobile Blood Donor Centre will be visiting:

Clare
Clare Sports Club,
Main North Road, Clare

Wednesday 8 March 2.30pm to 7.30pm
Thursday 9 March 10.00am to 6.30pm
Friday 10 March 7.30am to 1.00pm

Make an appointment today.

GIVE AWAY

2 x Female Kittens
Give away to good homes
Frankie 0439 430 091

Hip Hop Bounce, fresh dance that’s all about fun!

DANCE, CHEER, TUMBLE and SING, Hip Hop Bounce are now open for 2017 enrolments in Port Pirie, Jamestown and Clare.
Come and share our passion for dance; make new friends and have fun whilst getting fit, boosting your confidence and learning great dance technique. All students are invited to perform at our annual end of year Spectacular at the Northern Festival Centre. Everyone is welcome to come and try, no experience necessary.

Enrolments are now open for our exciting 2017 timetable...

*New classes with expanded timetables in Port Pirie, Jamestown and Clare.
*Huge range of styles including Hip Hop, Cheerleading (Stunt and Pom), Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Contemporary, Tumbling, Adult's Dance Fitness, Bounce Boys and Bounce-Sing (our very own Glee Club).
*Our very own Little Bouncer Club classes specifically designed to introduce your 2 or 3 year old to the magic of dance.
*New SACE and VET dance certification options for school years 9 and above.
*Take classes to perform, compete or just for fun; 2 years to adults, beginner to advanced, casual attendance options.

Contact Natasha for details and to book your place- classes are filling quickly.
natasha@hiphopbounce.com.au
0416 239 676
Find us on Facebook
DID YOU KNOW?

At the beginning of what staff call Week 0 we undertook an activity which involved staff sharing a “learning” from the holidays. Can you guess who ‘owns’ each learning???

I learnt how to snow ski.

To control fungus on tomatoes/zucchinis, spray early with 2 grams Wetable Sulphur/2 litres of water. Spray once or twice per week.

The female Tasmanian Devil can store sperm from several males and thus have a litter of pups of different paternity (hence breeding programs are tricky!)

I learnt all there is to know about Port Jackson Sharks after accidentally catching one at Farm Beach.

Tuna Tow boats tow tuna nets at 1 knot per hour so that the tuna don’t get distressed.

In long distance pigeon racing only a small percentage actually make it home.

I learnt that an 8 year old can “clear a beach” after mistaking a dolphin for a shark!

When cooking, the term “a dash” is actually equal to 6 drops.

That the fine for carrying an unsecured load is $246, the fine for not having your license in your possession is $400 and the fine for not displaying L plates is $400 AND that there are some compassionate members of the SA Police Force.

On Captain Cook’s first journey of exploration he was away for 3 years, he sailed a total of 50,000 nautical miles (92,600kms) and came within 200 kms of Antarctica.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS

Would you prefer to receive your newsletter electronically?

If YES, please fill in this form and return to the Front Office and we will add you to our email list.

Name: ____________________________________________

Email Address: _____________________________________

Eldest Child’s name: __________________________________

Class/Year: _________________________________________

Would you like to continue to receive a paper copy (sent home with your child) as well?  YES / NO