**Leading by example**
A reason to celebrate

What a dream start to 2017! The Year 6 class has been an absolute pleasure to teach, in what can sometimes be a few very overwhelming weeks at the start of a new school year. The students have settled in to new class routines and trialed a more contemporary classroom setting with genuine enthusiasm, patience and understanding. We have really enjoyed the maturity and respect with which they have offered feedback and it is this honesty and interest in their own learning that has impressed us most.

Week 2 ended with a very hot and very uncomfortable Y3-7 Mass in the Church! Even so, each and every one of our students can be proud of themselves; their behaviour in Church was the epitome of respectfulness with self-discipline, no unnecessary chatter, confident responses and singing… and not a single complaint about the heat! They have truly started the year with a real sense of responsibility, as the older cohort of students in our very close-knit St Joseph’s student community. As we started, what a dream start to 2017!

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**A focus on Friday routines: diary and homework**

A student diary can be a simple and highly effective organizational tool. Every Monday, we assist students to prepare their week’s diary page with known information, and demonstrate how it can be completed and used effectively throughout the week. Several key recordings in their diary include: nightly reading, fitness heart rates, test results, and of course, homework requirements.

It is our expectation that students will have their diary checked by a Parent in readiness for Friday. We request that before signing, Parents ensure that their child is using the diary as we intend – Is each day completed? Is essential and relevant information recorded? Is it neat and legible? If this is not the case, PLEASE DO NOT SIGN THE DIARY until this has been achieved! This is a simple strategy to ensure your child is developing the skill set to organize their week effectively and efficiently use a diary. This will also emphasise that the responsibility for getting the diary signed is unquestionably your child’s!

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**Important Dates**

- **Friday 24/2** Welcome Mass (inc. LEAD induction)
- **Tuesday 28/2** School Picnic (Shrove Tuesday)
- **Wednesday 1/3** Ash Wednesday Service (9am)
- **Friday 3/3** Assembly (9am)
- **Friday 10/3** Pupil Free Day (Staff: RE training)
- **Monday 13/3** Public Holiday (Adelaide Cup)
- **Monday 20/3** Whole School Mass (9am)
- **Friday 31/3** Buddy Mass (with Year 3s)

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**Don’t eat the marshmallow!**
Barriers to success

In the first few weeks of the year, it is customary for teachers to focus on developing positive relationships with the students in their new class, and providing opportunities for students to re-engage with each other after a long Summer break. In the Year 6 class, a primary objective of our activities was also to engage students specifically in a dialogue about themselves – their strengths and weaknesses, their interests, their own self-image, influences on
Success does not lie in ‘results’ but in ‘efforts’; ‘being’ the best is not so important, ‘doing’ the best is all that matters.

School Website: www.stjoclar.catholic.edu.au
Year 6 Class Notebook access OneNote using your child’s login details from any device via https://portal.office.com.

Brendan Ackland - brackland@stjoclar.catholic.edu.au
Monday – Wednesday, Thursday (odd weeks)

Briony Ackland - backland@stjoclar.catholic.edu.au
Thursday (even weeks), Friday