### July 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 10 21/6</td>
<td>22/6</td>
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<td>24/6</td>
<td>25/6</td>
<td>26/6</td>
<td>27/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assembly 2.40pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>LIBRARY - SPORT - CANTEEN</td>
<td>Regional debating</td>
<td>LAST DAY OF TERM</td>
<td>Vinnies Day</td>
<td>St Joseph’s Junior Campdraft &amp; Fete</td>
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<td><strong>Parent Teacher Interviews</strong></td>
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**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 29/6/15 - 10/7/15**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1 12/7</th>
<th>13/7</th>
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<th>16/7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mass 8.30am</td>
<td>TERM 3 BEGINS OPEN DAY</td>
<td>LIBRARY - SPORT - CANTEEN 3.30 Sacramental Program</td>
<td>NAIROC Week activities</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Mass 6.00pm Sacrament Program Rite of Apostles’ Creed</td>
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<td>P&amp;F meeting 4.30</td>
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<th>Week 2 19/7</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assembly 2.40pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>LIBRARY - SPORT - CANTEEN 3.30 Sacramental Program</td>
<td>Aspire Showcase Newcastle Yrs 3-6</td>
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<td>GRANDPARENTS DAY National Tree Planting Day</td>
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<th>Week 3 26/7</th>
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<th>31/7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mass 8.30am</td>
<td>Assembly 2.40pm</td>
<td>Kinder Transition 9.30-11.30</td>
<td>LIBRARY - SPORT - CANTEEN Diocesan Athletics 3.30 Sacramental Program</td>
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<td>Mass 6.00pm</td>
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### REFLECTION

**A Family Prayer Starter**

Give us new eyes, Lord, to see our lives in the light of your love.  
Too often our fear, neediness, anger, or hurt fog our vision.   
Help us to see your providence in the glory of trees, lakes, and cloudless skies.  
Help us to see your generosity in the many gifts we enjoy each day.  
Help us to see your wisdom in the rhythm of the days, the weeks, the seasons, and the years.  
Help us to see your image in the faces of everyone we meet and to know your goodness in the joy and love we feel for one another.  
We ask you this because we know you love us. Amen.
From the Principal...

Hello everyone and welcome to the last week of the term!

Thank you to Mrs Peebles for so ably adapting to the role of Acting Principal in my absence. I have returned to a very happy and productive school that has been led so well. Thank you to Mrs Kerr for stepping into the role of Acting Religious Education Coordinator filling Anne Marie’s vacancy beautifully. It is proof that we have a very effective school and a great school community when it continues to function so very well in times of change.

I have had a wonderful couple of weeks in Italy and feel refreshed and enriched by the experience. There were many highlights of my holiday but the one I want to share today was the experience of visiting the Vatican and attending an audience with the Pope. As can be seen in my photo, Pope Francis certainly gets among the people. He spent the first 15 minutes of our audience being driven around the crowds to say hello to the people. There was no bullet proof glass, no intimidating body guards. There were huge crowds in attendance on the day from all over the world and of all ages, all wanting to see the leader of the Catholic Church. Many thousands of people lined up for hours to gain entry to this event. I saw at least 3 bridal parties in attendance and many people choosing this event to celebrate significant life milestones such as anniversaries and birthdays. This event is repeated every Wednesday of the year. I was so impressed by how much the Church means to people all over the world.

The message Pope Francis spoke about on the day was the importance of the family as the cornerstone of society.

“The interior formation of the person and the social flow of affections have their mainstay in the family.”

“The prevailing economy is often concentrated on the enjoyment of individual wellbeing, but it largely exploits family ties. This is a serious contradiction! The boundless work of the family is not quoted in financial statements, obviously! Indeed economics and politics are misers in regards to acknowledging this. Should (the family) be removed, everything would fall apart.” Pope Francis, 3 June 2015.

Therefore Pope Francis believes in the absolute imperative to love and care for your family on all levels – spiritually and materially, and then to look to your wider family and ensure that no one is left uncared for. There is a link to the full transcript of this sermon on our school website.

We have pleasure in welcoming Arfan Isam and his parents Zaman and Nowsin to our school community. Isam has joined us in Year 2. We wish you all a long and happy association with our school.

New teacher joins the ranks of highly professional staff at St Joseph’s Primary school Merriwa. Miss Elizabeth Foran has been selected as our Stage 3 teacher for the remainder of the year. Miss Foran has experience in both rural and country schools. She is a graduate of Newcastle University and has impressed us with her deep knowledge of education and her passion for rural teaching. Miss Foran taught the Stage 3 class a couple of weeks ago and has spent some time with teachers in the region planning English teaching for next term. She is very excited to be starting here in a full time capacity next term.
At last the St Joseph’s Campdraft and Fete is here! This Saturday will see the fruits of all the effort behind the scenes to prepare for and stage the fundraising event of the year! I look forward to seeing all our families at the showground helping to raise much needed funds for the school and having a fabulous time with it. Whether you are a campdraft enthusiast, a market day junkie, a fete tragic or just love coffee and crowds there is a place for you on our day. Thank you to the parents who can’t be there on the day but have helped out before hand, this is very much appreciated. There are still lots of gaps on the canteen roster – so contact Mel now, if you have spare time on your schedule on the day.

Our annual Open Day will be held on the first day back next term, 13 July 2015. Your children took an invitation in their bags for you yesterday. The Open Day commences with an assembly at 12 noon in the MacKillop Room focussing on Aboriginal themes as this will be NAIDOC week. The classrooms are open for visitors following that and new parents will be taken on guided tours of the school. Please invite any families who may be interested in enrolling their child in 2016. Remember “word of mouth” is the most effective form of advertising.

Also in celebration of NAIDOC week we will enjoy an Aboriginal Elder visit from Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council/Arts Upper Hunter on Thursday 16th July. This visit will comprise a 2 hour workshop delivered by elder Dolly, and is likely to be a 1 hour session on weaving including a talk about the collection of materials used followed by a 1 hour session on the preparation of ochre and how it is used in Aboriginal culture. The students from Cassilis Public School will join us on this day. Huge thanks to Tash Taaffe and the Upper Hunter Shire for making this visit possible.

Well done Darcy Taaffe who represented us at the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Cross Country Championships at Sydney Motorsport Park last Friday. Darcy had qualified for this through wins at school and diocesan level. At the Polding Carnival, she came 10th running 9.02 minutes for the 2000m out of 43 - 8/9 year old girls. This was her first trip to Polding and she did a wonderful job against many kids over a year older than her, just missing out on top 6 which would have seen her qualify for the State All Schools championships. Congratulations Darcy, we look forward to following your progress in future years.

Grandparents Day and National Tree Day will again be celebrated on Friday of Week 2 next term. Please contact your grandparents as soon as possible to ensure that they can make it to what is traditionally a fabulous day of fun with students, parents and grandparents all participating together. There will be old fashioned tabloid games on the oval that everyone can enjoy.

Finally I would like to farewell Mr Mark Morris as he leaves his full time teaching position with us. Mark has been working with us since 2012 and in this time has been a real asset to our school. He has had a very high expectations of the students in his class and they have striven to meet the challenge. The students have loved Mr Morris as their teacher and parents have enjoyed a very good relationship with him also. Mark has helped the school community to understand disability and to leave behind their fears of people who have disability. For some this has been a long journey but for all of us a very worthwhile one. Thank you Mark for your time here and we look forward to seeing you again as a casual teacher.

Wishing everyone in the St Joseph’s School community a very relaxing, safe and family filled holiday!

Helen Whale

Darcy Taaffe at NSW Catholic Primary Schools Cross Country Championships. When asked how she felt after the race, she said ‘still fast but a bit tired!’
Awards

Kindergarten
Lula Peebles – for consistent effort in producing writing samples
Alana Telfer – for representing how the Holy Spirit guides her to care for others
Jack Patterson – for great participation in classroom activities
Mollie Beaven – for great work during literacy focus

1/2
Justin Alley – for actively participating in the Sacred Heart Mass
Fiona Tomy – for amazing reading skills shown at all times
William Collins – for demonstrating his understanding of position in Maths!
Matilda Cronin – For trying hard in literacy activities.
Seth Pepper – for great efforts in writing activities
Pia Henderson – for results in reading.

3/4
Riley Melmeth – for being able to identify and represent the emotions of the characters in Limpopo Lullaby.
Mikayla Telfer – for her great understanding of angles
Jack Shannon – for his great effort in literacy activities
Korey Halse – being able to explain an answer using mathematical thinking

5/6
Patrick Magner – for always working collaboratively and respecting the opinions of others
Jonathan Keegan – for using his scientific knowledge to assist others
Rebecca Keegan – for embracing challenges and tackling them with enthusiasm
Gaby Nicholls – for always bringing a positive attitude and striving to get the most out of her abilities

Playground Champion:
Olivia Collins – for participating well and playing fairly in basketball

Principal’s Awards:
Darcy Taaffe - for an outstanding result at Polding representing the school in Cross Country
Emily Barwick - for showing determination and persistence to improve in all aspects of her learning.
Nate Brown - for following directions for problem solving.
This Friday is **Vinnies Day**. This is the time when we think of others less fortunate than ourselves.

On Friday we ask that all students come to school in warm preloved clothes and bring a $2 donation. The money raised on the day will go to our local Vinnies organisation. This is a great way of showing the love of Jesus to others.

1:00—1:30 ~ **Vinnies Liturgy and Mark’s farewell**
1:30—2:00 ~ **Recess with games**
2:00—3:00 ~ **Talent Quest**

Please feel very welcome to join us. What a great way to finish off the term!

**Save the Date—**

**Grandparents’ Day** will be celebrated on the 24th July, which is Friday of Week 2. Please mark this on the calendar and be sure to start organising your grandparents now so you won’t be disappointed. This is always a very special day for our families. The children enjoy spending special time at school with their grandparents. The grandparents often comment to me that it is one of the most treasured days of their year. The day will consist of activities including tree planting, as well other activities in the school grounds. We will celebrate a special Mass remembering not only our grandparents but Jesus’ grandparents - St Joachim and St Anne.

**Anne Marie Peebles**

**REC**

Best wishes to the following members of our school community who will be celebrating their birthday in the coming weeks ......

- **Tia Magner**
- **Korey Halse**
- **Patrick Magner**
- **Toby Jamieson**
- **Mrs Brazier**
- **Mollie Beaven**
- **Riley Melmeth**
- **Emily Barwick**
2015 information for parents and carers

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment they are provided with.

The national data collection will count students who have been identified as receiving an adjustment to address a disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?

The aim of the national data collection is to collect better information about school students with disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

The national data collection is an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When implementing the national data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney will collect and report data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through the national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. The data will help schools to better support students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without disability.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as students without disability. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings), in the classroom (such as adapting class lessons) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?

Every year your child’s school will collect the following information for each student with a disability:

- the student’s level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student’s level of adjustment
- the student’s broad type of disability.

The information collected by schools will be provided to all governments to inform policy and
programme improvement for students with disability.

WHO WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?
The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy, diabetes or asthma, that require active monitoring by the school, may be included.

WHO WILL COLLECT INFORMATION FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?
Teachers and school staff will identify the number of students with disability in their school and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided based on:

- consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
- the school team’s observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.

HOW WILL MY CHILD’S PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?
Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential. Personal details such as student names or other identifying information will not be provided to local or federal education authorities.


IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?
All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and report information annually on the number of students with disability in their care and the level of adjustment provided to them.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child’s school principal and the relevant education authority or association of independent schools.

Even if your child’s information is not included in the national data collection, the school is still required to provide support to your child with education needs.

FURTHER INFORMATION
Contact your child’s school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and how it may involve your child.


An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at http://resource.dse.theeducationinstitute.edu.au/.
St Joseph’s Junior Campdraft & Fete

Saturday 27th June 2015

4 days to go!

Thank you to the wonderful parents and friends who have volunteered to manage one of our fun day activities or to assist on the day!

**Working Bee**

Friday 26th, 2:30pm.
- set campdraft panels up
- clean and set up the canteen
- put market and fete fencing up
- pick up and set up table and chairs from the RSL club
- set up the Rotary tent
- put up signs
- etc!

**Roster**

We still have time slots to fill, so if you can do this please ring De Patterson 0416 194501 to volunteer your time! Attached is confirmation of times so far. If you have sent your form back in and we have missed your name - we apologise and need your help - please ring!

**Campdraft**

Help still needed on draft cattle in the yards and working the camp gate. Contact Stephen Ninness on 0429 691105.

**Canteen/BBQ desperate for help!**

The canteen/bbq needs help! Even if you have volunteered on another activity please try to give at least an hour to the canteen as well! Ring Mel Bates 0417060381 to volunteer your time!

**Cake & Sweet Stall, Nik Nak & Book Stalls**

We need donations of cakes, sweets, books and nik naks! These can be dropped off at the school on Friday or the showground on Saturday morning.

**Raffle**

The raffle tickets sent home need to be returned to school ASAP! Tickets will still be on sale on the day.

**Silent Auction**

The silent auction is still open for business! Ring Tanya (65485185, 0419985680) to put your bid in or for further information. It’s just like ebay except over the phone! Silent Auction this year is to the great stallion Mains Shogun owned by the Main family.

**Market Stalls**

We have had a great response with our market stalls (14 so far). So there should be something for everyone!

De Patterson
Coordinator
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<tr>
<th>Setup</th>
<th>Campdraft Co-ordinator</th>
<th>Steve Ninness</th>
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<td>De Patterson</td>
<td>Backyards/front gate</td>
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<td>Rebecca Alley</td>
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<td>Hobby Horse race</td>
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<td>Mel Parker</td>
<td>Vic Shannon</td>
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**St Josephs Campdraft and Fete 2015 Roster**

**Help required all day - BBQ & serving - see separate roster**

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<td>Cake Stall</td>
<td>Leanne Hunt</td>
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**Cooking and helpers required**

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<th>Book Exchange</th>
<th>Melissa Collins</th>
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<td>Stall Helpers</td>
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**Ideas**
P & F would like to thank our recent Canteen Helpers — Sheree Baber, Maxine Cronin, Sarah Booth & Berna Hopkins.

CANTEEN ROSTER
24 Jun  Mel Bates + helper appreciated

BUS ROSTER
27/28 Jun  Hourn family
18/19 Jul  Hunt family
25/26 Jul  Jamieson family
1/2 Aug  Keegan family

Thank you to the Hagley & Henderson families who gave up some valuable time to clean the Aberdeen Bus recently.

Thank you to everyone for your generous donations of books for the second hand book stall that will be at the St Joseph’s Campdraft and Fete Day.

On the fete day you will be able purchase books at very reasonable prices with all money raised going back to the school. We will have children's books, magazines, cookbooks, novels and more!

If you and your family and friends no longer have a need for some books and magazines you can still bring them to the school this week or to the stall on Saturday morning.

Melissa Collins

Good for Kids good for life

Lunchbox fillers

Search for some inspiration for creative, easy lunch ideas for your children? Below are a few ideas:

- Homemade vegetable muffins
- Turkey, lettuce, cream cheese and cranberry sauce
- Chicken, lettuce, cheese, tomato and mayo
- Tuna, cucumber and cottage cheese
- Boiled egg, lettuce and mayo
- Homemade left over fried rice with ham and vegetables
- Homemade left over vegetable pasta
- Salad wrap with cream cheese
- Cheese, tomato and avocado crackers
- Cheese and vegemite
- Salmon, Spanish onion, alfiea and lettuce
- Chicken and rice noodle salad
- Left over lamb and demolished salad

Making lunches the night before can often alleviate some of the stress of the morning rush.

Writing a shopping list before hitting the shops can help ensure you have purchased everything you need for the week.

Giving your child some choice in what they have each day may help reduce wastage.

Melissa Collins

P & F meetings for 2015 will be held on the second Monday of each month at 4.30pm in the MacKillop Room.

Next meeting - Monday 13th July 2015

If you would like to add an item to the agenda to be discussed at the meeting, please contact Kim Holland on 0422 035576 or email kimholland1369@gmail.com by the Monday of the week preceding the meeting.

SOCOCER SKILLS

Soccer with Mr Morris has been F-U-N!

If you are keen come along for fun, a run, learn soccer skills and have a game! All Welcome!

Saturdays 10 am - 11 am, No. 2 Oval, Recommencing Saturday 11 July.

(Please note that this is not a school event)

Melissa Collins

Thank you . . . Thank you . . .