**May / June 2015**

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<td>Mass 8.30am</td>
<td>National Sorry Day</td>
<td>LIBRARY</td>
<td>ATHLETICS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PENTECOST SUNDAY</td>
<td>Nepal Fundraiser</td>
<td>No canteen</td>
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<td>School office closed</td>
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<td>TRINITY SUNDAY</td>
<td>Assembly 2.40pm</td>
<td>LIBRARY - SPORT - CANTEEN</td>
<td>6/6</td>
<td>Festival of the Fleeces</td>
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<td>Mass 8.30am</td>
<td>Regional Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>LIBRARY - SPORT - CANTEEN</td>
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<td>12.00 Mass Feast of the Sacred Heart</td>
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<td>UHCM Recital</td>
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<td>Polding Cross Country</td>
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<td>Assembly 2.40pm</td>
<td>Middle Schools Day - Yrs 5/6</td>
<td>LIBRARY - SPORT - CANTEEN</td>
<td>20/6</td>
<td>5/6 - Science &amp; Engineering Challenge</td>
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<td>3.30 Sacramental Program</td>
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**REFLECTION**

In a world where many are dedicated to attaining power over others, we dedicate ourselves to peace and to the support of the downtrodden.

In a church where many find it easier to keep the traditional ways, we dedicate ourselves to fresh expressions of worship and to innovative ways of service.

In a friendship circle where many experience relationships on a superficial level, we dedicate ourselves to listening carefully and to going the extra mile.

In our families where it is difficult to keep priorities straight in a fast moving world, we dedicate ourselves to taking time for each family member and to enjoying the moment with them. Amen.
From the Principal...

Life at St Joseph’s is very happy and the students are learning very well. I was very pleased to attend the Pre-School readiness evening last Monday with two of our Infants Class teachers Samantha and Anne Marie. We had a wonderful opportunity to showcase the great things being done at St Joseph’s to provide a high standard of academic learning for all students.

There has been a number of class excursions recently. Thank you to the parents for enabling the students to attend the excursions and thank you to the parents who were able to join the classes and offer their support. The students have returned to school very keen to share their learning and the experience has given them all rich memories to use in the class as the common basis of their work in that subject area. I am very proud of the students as I have received very good comments from the staff, parents and excursion personnel about the students’ manners and their general knowledge. Thank you to the teachers who have planned and supervised the excursions. There is a great deal of personal time behind the scenes used to make these experiences enjoyable for all.

We are conscious that there are people in our community who are in need of our thoughts and prayers at this time. We offer our condolences to Jane Clark and her family after the death of her grandmother and Tilly’s (K) great grandmother and we offer our prayers to Colleen Oldman and her family who are experiencing the pain of living with the grave illness of her son-in-law, John. We pray that God’s gentle love sustains and strengthens them all.

Nepal Appeal: Tomorrow the students will take part in fundraising activities to assist the people of Nepal who were recently affected by the devastating earthquakes. Please give generously. Thank you to Mr Morris and the Stage 3 leaders for their organisation of this fundraising event. The students did a wonderful job of planning classroom presentations for all classes which included a speech, PowerPoint images and discussion. The planning of this was all done in their own lunch times and was of a very high standard. The cause is a very worthy one and helps the whole school community realise that there are people in the world who are suffering and very much in need of our assistance.

Student progress reports will be sent home on Friday of Week 8 this term and interviews will be held during Week 10. Please book a time to see your child’s teacher so that we can continue to work together to gain the best learning outcomes for your child. Please fill in the interview timetable which will be sent home with the reports.

Interviews for the position of 5/6 teacher were held last Friday and we were spoiled for choice. As soon as the Catholic Schools Office verifies the successful applicant we will let you know.

Have you volunteered to work at the St Joseph’s Campdraft and Fete yet? Please plan your contribution to this one big fundraiser now. The money raised on the day helps the school provide quality learning experiences for every child. I am running the coffee shop again this year. If anyone is looking for a place to volunteer, please see me.
Enrolments for the 2016 school year are being taken now. Please tell your friends and relatives!!

I am having **Long Service Leave** from this Thursday until Tuesday in Week 9. During this time I will be attending the wedding of a close friend in Italy. Whilst there I will attend an audience with Pope Francis at the Vatican. I will offer prayers for the whole school community at this time. Anne Marie Peebles will be acting in the role of Principal during this time.

At last the painters are returning this week to complete the **painting of the exterior of the buildings and restoration of the belltower**. The students and staff are looking forward to this revamp. There will be safety barriers in place for the duration of the painting and the students will have lessons dedicated to safety around worksites.

You may have heard our **emergency and evacuation sirens** being sounded over the past couple of weeks. We have been carrying out our regular fire, evacuation and lock down drills with the students. Because we have had an electronic sound system installed recently it has been necessary to practice new drills and evaluate their efficiency. The students have been very good in responding to the alarms. It is a really good practice for families to develop household drills in case of emergencies in the home. As we enter the winter months when open fires and heaters are used more regularly it would be really useful to prepare drills with your children...they know the importance of them.

**Festival of the Fleeces**: this year is the 25th birthday of the Festival of the Fleeces and our school has been invited to lead the parade with “Josie”. As most will remember “Josie” is our giant festival sheep and the children, parents and teachers stand within her fleece and parade down the street. We would like kids to wear red socks and white or cream top layers, ie: cream or white t-shirts, cream or white jumpers etc. Please organise your **red socks NOW!!**

The children love the parade and we look forward to this year being better than ever. I will look forward to seeing the photos! A permission form is in your child’s bag. Please send it back as soon as possible.

**Helen Whale**

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Enrolments for the 2016 school year are being taken now. Please tell your friends and relatives!!

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Tocal Infants excursion 15th May
School Sport

Commencing next week, Wednesday 3rd June, until the end of term, our weekly school sport will be focussed on tennis skills.

Stage 2 and 3 children (3/4 and 5/6) will be walking to and from the tennis courts at sport time. The general excursion permission note you signed at the beginning of the year is sufficient for this but if you have any concerns please let us know.

The Infants class will complete their tennis program at school.

If your child has a tennis racquet, please remember to label it and send with them each Wednesday until the end of term (or it may be left at school for the duration of the program). The school does have some racquets for those who do not own one.

Sally Hagley

AWARDS

Kindergarten
Archie Constable - for great work sounding out words
Alana Telfer - for sharing her knowledge of work hats with the class
Mollie Beaven – for great work in writing words
Jack Patterson – for trying hard during written work
1/2
Levi Hourn - for trying hard during sound work.
Ben Patterson - for great work completing his hat during visual arts
Aidan Hunt - for showing good problem solving skills during Maths
Emily Barwick - for gaining confidence in writing activities
3/4
Amy Redgate - for a great comparison of two persuasive ads
Will Henderson - for a excellent research task on Dirk Hartog
Bobby Keegan - for his enthusiasm and effort in Maths
Patrick McLaren - for his great contributions to class discussions
5/6
Tia Magner - for collaborating well in HSIE assessment on Antarctic explorer
Darcy Moore – for an excellent effort in Religion assessment on Sacraments of Healing
Nicholas Morgan - for demonstrating great enthusiasm in investigating electricity
Jemma Grady - for an excellent result in Sacraments of Healing assessment
Playground Champion
Patrick McLaren – for enthusiastically joining in games
Principal’s Awards
Sienna Baber - for demonstrating active, healthy lifestyles with her gymnastics play
Arlia Parker - for her positive approach to all aspects of school life.
Nicole Martin - for working collaboratively as a year 6 leader to plan and deliver the NEPAL project
Toby Jamieson - for working persistently to apply his mathematical knowledge to new situations.

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

Aidan Hunt
Lauren Redgate
Peter Hagley
Mrs Peebles
Nate Brown

Happy Birthday
The Feast of the Sacred Heart

On Sunday we celebrated Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. 19 days after Pentecost we celebrate The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We will be attending Mass this day at 12 noon. All are very welcome to attend. This is an old tradition of private devotion. The Feast of the Sacred Heart allows us to stop and think about the love of Jesus – the love that Jesus has for us, the love we have for Jesus and in return the love we have for each other. This Feast Day is very often depicted with Jesus and his heart showing on his chest. Next time you are in St. Anne’s Church see if you can find the statue! In an Andrew Chinn song we find great lyrics to help us understand this Feast Day:

Love one another as I have loved you
Love one another is our call
Be the love, be the heart of Jesus
One heart, one love, the love within us all.

Year 6 Test

Year 6 will sit the Year Six RE test on Wednesday the 10th June. This test is important for us as a school so we can collect relevant data and continue to improve our teaching practices.

Anne Marie Peebles

Scholastic Book Club

Issue 4 catalogues will be sent home this week. Book Club is a great way of encouraging and developing your child’s literacy skills-and they make great gifts! Each dollar you spend earns points for the school to use on new books for the library.

A reminder:

- Orders and payments can be made online—Scholastic LOOP allows parents to order and pay for their child’s Book Club order online in one simple process. Visit http://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/

If you would like to place an order from Book Club, please return your order forms and payment to the school no later than Tuesday 2nd June 2015, or place your order online.

Melissa Collins & Sally Gilbey
Coordinators.
St Joseph’s Campdraft & Fete
Saturday 27th June 2015

Organisation of our fundraising Campdraft and Fete Day is well under way.
Book the date in your diary and come along and help out for a while and enjoy a great social day out.

Meeting
Tuesday 9th June 2015
Merriwa RSL Club
6:30pm

Children are welcome, however must be actively supervised.

Help on the day
Of course we will require lots of help on the day to ensure everything runs smoothly. Remember more hands make light work! We have had many offers of help from people from outside our school community. We are hoping that everyone from within our school community will be able to assist at some stage: cooking and preparations prior to the day, set up Friday, throughout the day Saturday or pack up Sunday.
Help will be needed in the second ring running sporting events; the campdraft ring- helping in the yards with cattle, scoring and time keeping; in the canteen, on the bbq, running a fete activity, selling raffle tickets etc.
There will be something for everyone!
A roster will be sent home for everyone to fill in their availability to assist.

Sponsorship
Paul Marchese of Merriwa Engineering is our major sponsor again this year. We thank Paul very much for his generosity.
If you know of anyone who would be willing to sponsor our event or if you would like to sponsor our event yourself, please contact Tash Taaffe at tashholden@bigpond.com. We have great sponsorship packages to meet everyone’s needs.

Fete Day
Peter Holland is the organiser of the fete day activities and would love to hear your great ideas for fun activities and events for the children.

Raffle
The raffle is currently being organised and raffle tickets will be sent home to every family in the next week or two!

Market Stalls
We are interested in having market stalls at our day! We have had several stall holders interested in coming. Do you know someone who has a market stall and would be willing to come to our day? Site fees are very reasonable. If so please contact Natalie Hourn.

Cake Stall
Leanne Hunt is the organiser of the cake stall. We hope you can help us out with lots of homebaked goodies.

Canteen/BBQ
Mel Bates is the organiser of the canteen/bbq and will gladly welcome offers of help.

Coffee Stall
Helen Whale is organising the coffee stall and will appreciate occasional helpers throughout the day.

Campdraft & Sporting
All campdraft and sporting entries opened on Monday, 25th May and close Monday 23rd June 2015 or when cattle are allocated. We have had numerous phone enquiries. If you have a child who is intending on participating in the horse events remember you must be a financial member of the ABCRA. Further enquiries regarding anything to do with the campdraft or sporting can be made to Stephen Ninness 65485185 or 0429691105.
St Joseph's P & F Campdraft & Fete
would like to thank all of our generous SPONSORS

Major Sponsor
2015

Gold Sponsor
IGA Merriwa Traders
Wild Group
Mr Bill Reynolds

Silver Sponsors
Hunter Mutual
Merriwa Pharmacy
Mark Whale Contracting
Biffin’s Excavation
Martin’s Group of Co.
RM Property & Livestock

Bronze Sponsors
Anthea Wright
Chapman & Slattery
Merriwa RSL Club
Russell’s Earthmoving
Merriwa Sports Club
Tullymore Clydesdale &
Shire Horse Stud
Hello World Travel Scone
Merriwa Tyre Service
Maccallum Inglis
Redgate Family

Plus...a big thanks to all our

Product & Prize Sponsors
Stan Bowd Custom Made Saddlery - bridle
AQHA - hi point Quarter Horse rug
ASHA - Hunter - hi point Stock Horse rug
Australian Reptile Park - family passes
Coolmore Stud - stud tour
Taronga Western Plains Zoo
Merriwa Mens Shed - saddle stand
Upper Hunter Shire Council - ground fees
Merriwa Chinese Restaurant
Merriwa Pony Club - equipment
Merriwa Campdraft - panel hire
Merriwa Petroleum & Ag - feed
Tash Holden Communications
Precious Pieces Denman - voucher
Jake MacIntyre DJ & Sound
Marsh Carney - Rug
Castlereagh Feeds - horse feed
Australian Maritime Museum - family pass

BOOK DRIVE

As part of the Campdraft and Fete Day, St Joseph’s will be holding a second hand book stall.

If you and your family and friends no longer have a need for some books and magazines and
they are in reasonable condition don’t throw them out - donate them towards the book sale!
Books and mags for all ages can be dropped off at St Joseph’s or at the CRT.

On the fete day you will be able purchase books at very reasonable prices with all money raised
from this stall going back to the school.

Melissa Collins
P & F would like to thank our recent Canteen Helpers — Scott Beaven, Bernadita Gabriel, Pat Kirkby, Jenny Johnson & Lucy Johnson.

CANTERBURY ROSTER
29th May Fiona Morgan + helpers needed
3 Jun Volunteers needed
10 Jun Sharee Baber & Maxine Cronin

BUS ROSTER
23/24 May Collins Family
30/31 May Volunteers needed
6/7 Jun Cronin Family

Please remember to check the bus roster for your turn to clean the Aberdeen bus. A copy was sent home to each family at the start of the year. It is also available on the school website. This once-a-year job for each family raises a substantial amount for our school and saves many hours of other fundraising activities.

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

Next meeting - Tuesday 9th June 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.

THANK YOU . . .
to the Brazier and Brown/Redman families who gave up some valuable time to clean the Aberdeen Bus recently.

PUPIL FREE DAY
Tuesday 2nd June
Merriwa Activity Centre will be open all day for families requiring child care. Please contact Nat Hourn at MAC on 6548 2083 to make a booking.

Soccer Skills
Saturdays 10 am - 11 am, No. 2 Oval, beginning Saturday 13 June
Mark Morris and Melissa Collins will be running soccer skills on Saturdays. Many of you may not know that Mark is a past representative of NSW and Australia in CP football with the highlight of his sporting career being as an Australian player competing in the 2000 Paralympic Games.

Come along for fun, a run, learn soccer skills and have a game!

All Welcome!

Melissa Collins

Good for Kids good for life
Simple and inexpensive physical activity

Increasing the amount of physical activity in your child's day is a simple and inexpensive way to improve their health and wellbeing. Being active doesn't cost a lot or take up a lot of time. Here are some fun and easy ways to include more activity in your child's day:

- Playing games like 'Simon Says' or 'Follow the leader'
- Playing with the dog
- Going for a walk
- Playing in the park
- Dancing in the lounge room
- Kicking a ball in the backyard

Encourage your Kids to be creative while having fun and being active, for example:
- To make bats or racquets, roll up newspaper or use cardboard tubes
- For markers or obstacles for games, use plastic bottles, containers or shoes
- Sticks or mops can be used for hurdles or the limbo bar
- Chalk, ropes or masking tape and great for game markings e.g., hopscotch, handball

If you have a backyard, make the most of it! Play hopscotch or elephants, chalk some handball markings, create a soccer goal from bins or other backyard objects or you could put up a netball or basketball hoop.

There are lots of simple and inexpensive ways to help your kids be active every day.

Reference: Q4: The Coast in Motion - Family ACTion Pack

NSW Health
Local Health District

Phone 4924 6499

NEALS