### July/August 2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Sun</th>
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<td>24/7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mass 8.30am</td>
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<td>9.30-11.00 School Readiness Open Day</td>
<td>Library - Sport Canteen</td>
<td>Grandparents Day</td>
<td>Mass 6pm</td>
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<td>3.30 Sacrament Mtg</td>
<td>4.30 P&amp;F Meeting</td>
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<td>2.40pm Liturgy/Assembly 3.30 Sacrament Mtg Regional Debating Muswellbrook</td>
<td>Library - Sport Canteen Diocesan Athletics</td>
<td>Aspire trip Yrs 3-6</td>
<td>Mass 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mass 8.30am</td>
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<td>St Mary MacKillop Feast Day 2.40pm Liturgy/Assembly Merriwa Horse Sports 3.30 Sacrament Mtg</td>
<td>Kinder transition 9.30 - 11.00</td>
<td>Library - Sport Canteen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mass 8.30am</td>
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<td>2.40pm Liturgy/Assembly 3.30 Sacrament Mtg</td>
<td>School Maths Bee final</td>
<td>Library - Sport Canteen</td>
<td>5/6 Leadership Day</td>
<td>Mass 6pm</td>
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**Reflection**

**Grandparents Day**

There’s a special kind of love that grandchildren have for their grandparents. It’s filled with respect for their wisdom and accomplishments; With gratitude for the values they’ve given us... with delight in the stories of our family that they remember and share. It’s a special kind of love that’s built on a lifetime of caring and giving. It’s the kind of love that’s felt for you my dear grandparent, today and always. (Courtesy of Grandparents Association, Westport, Co. Mayo)
On the first day of the holidays we were blessed with beautiful weather and high spirits as the showground came alive to the sound of horses’ hooves and the smell of bacon and egg rolls and coffee.

Riders were once again attracted from far and wide and competition was of a very high standard. The professional manner in which the event was organised needs to be seen to be believed. The Campdraft and Sporting events require a great deal of work before hand and a huge number of competent helpers on the day. We are most grateful to all the volunteers who put up their hand and helped us run the event. Thank you to our major sponsor – The Martins Group.

Our appreciation of the many people and businesses who sponsored in the form of financial donations and prizes for the day cannot be understated. Local businesses, parents, grandparents, local community members and people from afar have overwhelmed us with their generosity.

Thanks to the market stall holders who graced us with their presence. Your stalls add vibrancy to our event.

Finally to the Parents, friends, students and ex-students of St Joseph’s School who organised and worked on the stalls, BBQ, petting zoo and canteen on the day – we can’t do it unless we work together and we did it!! Thank you so much.

As is often said..."It takes a village to raise a child", St Joseph’s School is proud to be a part of the Merriwa community and appreciates your contribution to the education of our children.

**St Joseph’s School Junior Campdraft and Fete**

On behalf of the school community of St Joseph’s Primary, Merriwa, I thank all the people who supported our annual fundraiser – the St Joseph’s School Junior Campdraft and Fete.
Your Children's education is key to their future opportunities
As parents you want what is best for your children. We want that too.
Our Mission is to provide an educational environment that values and nurtures the uniqueness of every child, an environment that empowers and challenges students to become lifelong learners with optimism and hope in the future.

If this is what you want for your child please call the school for an enrolment package now.

Parents in Partnership is a living theme at St Joseph’s.
The many parents who attended goal review meetings at the end of the first semester are already actively working as part of the team supporting their child’s education. We all need each other. The students are very proud of their learning achievements this year and are very keen to see further learning growth.

Grandparents Day will be celebrated this Friday and we are very much looking forward to catching up with our grandparents again. After sharing a lunch and Mass together the new students and their grandparents, will be planting 6 large trees in the top playground. The rest of the students will enjoy an afternoon of games of various types. All activities will take place on the top playground for the more adventurous grandparents and on the verandahs for the rest of us!! St Joseph’s celebrates Grandparents on this day because it is the anniversary of Jesus’ grandparents – Saints Anne and Joachim.

The staff room is abuzz with teachers discussing the boundless possibilities for quality learning opportunities, following their return from Newcastle University last week. They attended a conference titled 'Reframing Learning' with over 600 staff from 38 primary and 6 secondary schools from the Maitland Newcastle Diocese. They were treated to quality presentations from keynote presenter, Dean of Education, Professor John Fischetti, and then 31 others presenters offering a range of inspiring workshops. It was an outstanding day of learning and a great success!

We are indeed so fortunate to have such dedicated and inspiring teachers at St Joseph’s School.

Enrolments are now being accepted for Kindergarten 2017. Please pass this information on to anyone who may be interested in our school providing quality education to their children.

Term 2 - Spirit of St Joseph Award has been awarded to Jack Shannon.

Jack has been nominated by his peers for being a very fair sportsperson on the playground. His teachers have nominated him for the tremendous effort he put into preparing himself to compete in the Regional Spelling Bee. Since this time he has also nominated himself for whole school reading roles and participatory jobs. Jack is recognised by all for displaying a great sense of empathy and compassion towards others and for his healthy respect for school authority.

Enrolments are now being accepted for Kindergarten 2017. Please pass this information on to anyone who may be interested in our school providing quality education to their children.
Best wishes to the members of our school community who will be celebrating their birthday in the next two weeks …..

AWARDS

Congratulations to our award winners of Weeks 1:

Kindergarten
Freya Tomy - for enthusiasm and a great work ethic in Literacy and Numeracy
Dakotah Chin - for enthusiasm and enjoyment during drawing activities

1 / 2
Arlia Parker - for attention to detail and creativity in visual art
Grace Booth - for excellence in spelling activities

3/4
Helena Parker - for fantastic ideas in our Mayor for a Day writing task
Roy Lawler - for working hard to improve his reading skills

5/6
Jacob Bridges – for fantastic imaginative writing during visual literacy
Chloe Towell - for fantastic imaginative writing during visual literacy
Patrick McLaren - for great work with multiples in mathematics

Principal’s Award:
Levi Hourn – for demonstrating to his teachers and classmates good social skills and being a good buddy to Kindergarten children.

Found at the Campdraft & Fete BBQ - a man’s jacket - grey & black, size L.

Found in the MacKillop Room after Open Day - a small girl’s ring

Lost at Campdraft - chocolate brown Ugg boots

Please contact the school office if either of the found items belong to your family or if you know the whereabouts of the Ugg boots.
What is World Youth Day?

World Youth Day (WYD) is a worldwide encounter with the Pope which is typically celebrated every three years in a different country. The most recent WYD was celebrated in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from July 23rd to 28th, 2013. Right now the World Youth Day is being held in Krakow, Poland.

WYD is open to all young people who want to take part in a festive encounter with their contemporaries centred on Jesus Christ. This event is an opportunity to experience the universality of the Church; to share with the whole world the hope of many young people who want to commit themselves to Christ and others.

World Youth Day is a unique way to deepen your faith and grow closer to Christ, by means of prayer and the sacraments, together with thousands of other young people who share your interests and ambitions.

Taken from http://worldyouthday.com/about-wyd

The Diocese of Maitland/Newcastle has 71 representatives who have joined the many other pilgrims who have travelled from all over the world. The celebrations begin this week in Krakow.

In 2008 Merriwa was part of the World Youth Day celebration held in Sydney. We hosted the World Youth Day Cross and Icon plus some of the pilgrims from the UK. While these pilgrims stayed with locals from our parish they experienced Merriwa hospitality, prayed in our church and lived in our homes. We can also thank these pilgrims for many of the trees planted in the bottom playground. It was a wonderful experience for all involved. Please pray for all the youth who have made the pilgrimage to Krakow, keep them out of harm’s way and bring them all home safely.

Anne Marie Peebles

REC
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 counts students who have been identified by a school team 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 quality 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 undertaking 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 submit 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 improve target support and resources to benefit students with 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 reflect the assessed individual needs of the student, and are provided in consultation with the student and/or their parents and carers. 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 count 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 judgments
- 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 submit 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your child’s school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability.


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/.
Canteen Roster

No canteen tomorrow 27/7/16.
Grandparents Day BBQ lunch on Friday
Have you returned your order?

Bus Roster

30-31 Jul  Lawler family
6-7 Aug  Luke family
13-14 Aug  Magner family
20-21 Aug  McLaren family

Thank you . . .
to Dermot Shannon who gave up some valuable time to clean the Aberdeen Bus last weekend.

Next P&F meeting is on . . .
To be advised
All families and friends most welcome and encouraged to attend!

Scholastic Book Club catalogues were sent home last week. As usual, there is a great range of books suitable for all ages.

Orders and payment are due in by this Friday 29th July or you can place your order online using the LOOP system - instructions are on the catalogues.

Thank you for continuing to support our school and encouraging your children to enhance their literacy through the wonderful world of books.

Melissa & Sally Coordinators.

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