NEWSLETTER NO: 25 Thursday 18th August 2016

*** Supervision of students at St Joseph's School is from 8.35am until 3.20pm ***

G'day parents and friends,

Wellbeing Leader Prue Vanstan writes:

**Olympics Wednesday 24 August 1:30pm**

We are working towards our Friendship Group Olympics, beginning at 1:30pm after an early lunch break with a parade and flame ceremony. There will be NO ASSEMBLY. Families are welcome to come along to cheer! The groups have come up with some amazing names, mascots and songs. Be prepared for some great photos on the day! The aim of the Games is to have some good old fashioned fun surrounded by the social skills of good sportsmanship, encouragement, self-belief and risk taking. These are vital skills in everyday life and can be reinforced when surrounded by a supportive team. Any parents who would like to help please inform your class teacher.

**Behaviour**

Playground behaviour has been tracked and analysed this term. Twice a year over 3 weeks the teachers record observations of peer interactions, areas of play, isolation and negative behaviours. It shows that the oval has very few incidents and that children have continued to respond well to the 'no tackling rule'. The basketball court is the least likely place for issues. As expected the base or cubby area has noted a few problems, mainly over sharing sticks and who ‘owns’ what base. Certainly some whole school and class discussion around this will occur. Approximately six children were noted as being alone, though many joined in with play after the initial observation. When questioned, two of the children said they were happy to play by themselves even though they were around other children. It appears that most of our children are playing and responding to each very well. We have also been able to identify a very small group of children who require more support when playing, especially being fair and using social expectations of group games. This heightened awareness of these issues enables staff to monitor, support and improve social interactions and better supervise hotspots.

**Dates**

Friday 19 School Advisory Board 9am, Parents and Friends 2pm, Senior Hooptime
Tuesday 23 No UYSC buses
Wednesday 24 Mini Olympics 1:30

We welcome back Miss Bourke to Junior B from Maternity leave.

**Masses**

The Middle M class celebrated Mass this week. Next week parents and friends are invited to join the Confirmation candidates on Wednesday 24 August 9am.

**Enrolments**

Please encourage friends and neighbours to consider our great school. Parents are our best promoters! Applications are available from the office. If your children are not returning to St Joseph's in 2017 please let us know as soon as possible.

God bless us all,

John
Religious Education

I have been thinking lately about how Religious Education is important for everyone including non-believers. I found this reflection which summarises my thoughts.

Religious Education can help pupils to make sense of issues they face personally and of those that affect the society around them. When Religious Education is taught well, pupils speak warmly of the opportunities it provides to understand the diversity of the ideas abroad in the world; to make sense of issues they face personally and those that affect the society around them; and, to reflect at a serious level on their own beliefs and values.

Alan Brine
English National Advisor for RE

Karen McQuade
Christian Life leader
Dear Parents

The staff will continue their Kidsmatter training later in the term. Kidsmatter is a framework that has allowed us to reflect and discuss the good things we are doing in mental health and wellbeing whilst highlighting areas we could improve upon. The first component we completed last year was ‘Positive School Community’. It has been wonderful to name all of the interactions and engagement opportunities that have occurred this year in order to enhance and build upon our positive school here at St Joseph’s. The Junior Science morning, the Senior history unit and artefact display, and the Middle school inquiry learning with parents, have all added to inclusion and engagement. The production, Friendship Groups, Choral Group, Teach the teacher team and Social Justice team have continued to add to the positive nature of what makes a school positive and engaged. We still have ideas, events and resources we are looking at to continue our journey as a school that truly cares about kids and their mental health and wellbeing.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you wish to about your child’s social and emotional needs or I can help out with any information from our parent resources.

Smiles

Prue Vanstan

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It's not too late!

You have until

9th September

to enter all the books you have been reading online.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or ‘experience’ 30 books with their parents and teachers.

Children from Year 3 to Year 6 are challenged to read 15 books.

Remember if you have lost your login details, you can ask at the office or your class teacher. All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier in Term Four.

Our school already has some students who have completed the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge. Well done to those students, I wonder what their favourite book was!

So now it’s time to get reading and see if you can complete the Challenge too.
Next P & F Meeting –
**Tomorrow - Friday 19th August 2 - 3pm**

Parents and Friends are always looking for new members, everyone is welcome – mums, dads, grandparents... Still to come this year are the Father’s day stall, Lapathon, shopping tour and we looking for new ideas for hot lunch days, plus much more.

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**Father’s day stall – Friday 2nd September**
If any parents are able to help out please see Melissa or Sally or just come along on the day.

**Uniform Shop next open –**
**Monday 5th of September from 3pm.**

Please note that we can only accept cash or cheque at this time.

Orders can be placed at any time using an order form available from the office.
Second Hand Uniform will now be available from the uniform shop. Please consider donating your old uniform (in good condition) by bringing it in to the uniform shop or leaving it at the office.

**Shopping Tour – Save the date– Saturday 20th October**

**St Joseph’s Yarra Junction Community Facebook**
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/stjosephsysycommunity](https://www.facebook.com/groups/stjosephsysycommunity)

Parents and families are invited to join St Joseph’s Yarra Junction Community Facebook group. The group aims to keep everyone up to date, share events and notices, as well as buy, swap and sell uniform.

This group is run by parents not school. This is not a space to discuss any grievances with the school, please take them to the leadership team or a member of the advisory board.

**Clearance Uniform Order Form**

*Students may continue to wear the current uniform items during the changeover period of 2 years. Only sizes listed available and only while stocks last.*

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<th>Price</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Qty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sky Blue Short Sleeve Polo</strong>&lt;br&gt;Only available in sizes 5,6,10,12,16</td>
<td>$10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sky Blue Long Sleeve Polo</strong>&lt;br&gt;Only available in sizes 10,14</td>
<td>$10</td>
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**PAYMENT IS REQUIRED AT TIME OF ORDERING – Cash or Cheque only**

Student’s Name:_________________________ Class: ______

Parent Contact Name and Phone:_________________________

☐ Please send order home with child ☐ I will collect from the office.