G'day parents and friends,

Welcome back! We had shiny shoes and faces last week as we all arrived for the New Year! By the accounts of beaches, trips and parties shared by parents, children and staff, a great time was had by all! We certainly look forward to a fantastic year working together.

Thank you for bringing in your children to meet their teachers for individual testing last week. It is invaluable information that assists the teachers in planning the learning programs for their students.

**Beginning of the Year Mass**

This is to be celebrated on Friday 13 February at 9am with our new students being welcomed and our seniors receiving their leadership jackets. So, we hope to see you there!

**Foundation Class**

Mrs Reed and Mrs Whetam are leading our new students through a most successful beginning to school life for our Foundation class members. Having the place to themselves last week made for a quieter and less stressful start.

**New Families**

We welcome the children and families who have joined us this week: Alicia and Brooke Martin, Macklin and Cooper Murray and Luke Schmitzer and our new Foundation students: Sophie Atkins, Ash Bradley, Savannah (Kernie) Butera, Elizabeth Dawson, Violet Ferguson, Adam Frost, Dylan Gvozdich, Mitchell Ireland, Archie Kerr, Audrey Murphy, Georgia O’Connor, Alexandra Pietsch, Jessie Smith, Mae Timbury, Rachael Van de Paverd, and Hayden Willemsen. We wish them a long and successful time as part of our community.

**Fee statements**

Accounts for this year will be sent out next week. We would appreciate that if anyone is still in arrears you contact Sue or myself to set up a process of payments for this year.

**Autumn Fair Sunday 15 March**

We have our first meeting of the year on Friday 6 February at 9am to which all interested people are welcome and encouraged to attend. We will be checking stalls and holders, jobs to be done, and generally planning a great day for all!

As it is to be held near St Patrick’s Day, that is our theme again.

**Communication**

The Parent teacher meetings are invaluable meetings that are important to setting up a successful year. The online booking information is included. If you have any concerns at any time contact your class teachers in the first instance or myself. Introductory interviews will be held on Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th February and bookings can be made at www.schoolinterviews.com.au or follow the link on Tiqbiz. Event code for the introductory meetings is EVG2D.

Sending SMS messages cost us thousands of dollars a year whereas tiqbiz only a few hundred! SMS messages will be used for emergencies. TIQBIZ will be used more this year to keep you informed. Please search for TIQBIZ in your phone app store, open and register, click the Find Boxes and type St Joseph’s, select us, then tick the boxes that apply to you including Whole School. There are 4 new class names.

God bless us all,

John
Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher meetings will be held at **3.30pm – 6pm on Tuesday 10th February** and **2pm – 8pm on Wednesday 11th February**
For parents that do not have internet access, please see Sue at reception. Parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require, or phone the school on 5967 1183. Meetings are strictly 10 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Now you can book school meetings for the times that suit your family.

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

![EVG2D Go](EVG2D-Go.png)

Simply enter the code and press "Go"

**THIS CODE CHANGES – DO NOT USE YOUR LAST EVENT’S CODE**

1. Enter your details
2. Select the teachers you wish to see
3. Select the appointment times that suit your family best

When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately – **Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelled your email address correctly**

You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until the bookings close.

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 5967 1183

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the "contact us" button on the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school’s name and suburb.
Follow @CFASafetyAlerts on Twitter
Go to facebook.com/cfagov
Download the FireReady app
Visit emergency.vic.gov.au
Listen to local radio
Stay aware of your surroundings
Telephone for a warning
in an emergency. Do not rely just on your
emergency.vic.gov.au and watch the video (it's
in 30 languages)
For more information about the system, visit:

The action given is the alert.

If adults are not around, encourage them to follow
such as a relative or teacher.

The message is a reasonably audible. They know,
round the house. If they receive a warning message on the home
system, talk to your child about the Emergency Alert

Example Text Alert

EMERGENCY ALERT. BE WARNED. BE INFORMED.

+61 444 444 444

All telephone warnings come from the official number:
+61 444 444 444

where you can get more information.
what you should do in an emergency.
about the emergency and where it is.
which emergency services sent the message: eg CFA

The warning message will tell you:
The service is free and you do not need to register.

a mobile phone that is switched on and in an
area with mobile coverage may receive a text
with "Emergency, Emergency", and/or
receive a recorded voice message that begins
a home phone with the warning area may

When the emergency services use the telephone
when you are travelling with your mobile near an

When your home or school is near an emergency

reach your
registered and the desired location of your mobile to

Emersgeny Alert is the national telephone warning

voice message to your home phone.

If there is a bushfire, flood, severe storm or other...