Our vision says: In our community we aspire to create a just world that promotes the dignity of every human person.

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**SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS**
8.45am – 3.30pm

**PRINCIPAL**
Mr John Faulkner

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**
Mr Marty McKenna

**ADMINISTRATION OFFICERS**
Mrs Sue Lucas / Mrs Di Hendriks

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**FEBRUARY**

6th  Foundation class family BBQ
10th  Introductory meetings
11th  Foundation class day off
13th  Beginning of year Mass 9am
14th  Working Bee 9am – 1pm
17th  Shrove Tuesday
18th  Foundation class day off
25th  Foundation class day off
27th  District swimming at Healesville

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**G’day parents and friends,**

**Justin Colley**

Mr Colley has been keeping us informed of his experiences moving to Santa Teresa. After driving to Alice Springs, a week induction in Darwin, he is now settled into his house. School has started for him and he is experiencing life in an indigenous community. This week he was part of the welcoming of young men back from weeks of initiation in the bush. Justin is relishing all his experiences and we certainly wish him well. The attached photo is of ochre and blood!

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**Beginning of the year Mass**

Next Friday, February 13th all are invited to join us for the beginning of the year Mass at 9a.m. at which we call on God’s blessings for the year and present the leadership jackets.

**Parent meetings**

Most parents have booked their times for meetings on Tuesday or Wednesday. If you have any problems please contact reception. During these please be prepared to share your knowledge and understanding of your child with the teachers, and identify strengths and weaknesses, and those things that what could be goals for development this year. When you come to the meetings next week you will be also invited to complete a short questionnaire.

**Congratulations**

We rejoice at the birth of William Grottaers this week. Being 6 weeks early, it was a bit unexpected for parents Allan and Jessie. Brother Jacob (Senior V) is very excited!
Building a Caring Community

Welcome to the new school year! This year we begin with integrated units on community and aim to promote a caring attitude in our community. We will be striving to make the values of the Gospel relevant to everyday life for the children. The gospel values are those that Jesus taught and practised. They encompass our school values of:

- care – appreciate and care for each other, our belongings and the natural environment
- respect – be aware of the rights of all people, everyone is special and important
- responsibility – for own actions, follow rules, work to best of ability
- justice – promote a just world that promotes the dignity of each person - love, truth peace
- collaboration – build relationships, sense of belonging
- learning – value lifelong learning and have high expectations of possible achievements, opportunities to develop spiritually, physically, academically, emotionally, socially and culturally.

Values are the basis of the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes taught in the Bible. Values are based on love/caring.

This year we will again offer information evenings and the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation. Baptism needs to be arranged with Fr Ashkar and this can be done by attending a meeting at the parish church, held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. I am always available if you wish to discuss anything. An information evening will be held at the school for parents of children wishing to receive the other sacraments. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held on Tuesday, 25th March, first Eucharist will be on 31st May and Confirmation is likely to be held on 14th August.

Wishing you all a good year,
Karen McQuade
Christian Life Leader
Welcome back to the Scholastic Book Club in 2015. Here’s some details to help you understand the process if you are new to it, or just as a reminder.

- There are two Book Club brochures distributed each term, which are given out to students to take home for consideration.
- If you would like to make an order, please write your child's name and class on the form on the back, along with the receipt number if you are paying online or via phone with a credit card.
  Orders can also be paid for with cash if you wish.
- Once you have filled out the form, please return it to your child's teacher (with the correct amount of cash if necessary) or the office by the due date which will be advertised in the newsletter.

It usually takes about two- three weeks for the books to come back to us once the order has been placed. I will deliver them back to the classrooms as soon as possible for the teachers to give out.

If you would like a discreet delivery, for birthdays or surprises, please make a note on your form when returning it with your name & mobile number, and I will let you know when the item/s have arrived for you to pick up from the office.

Sometimes a book may be sold out or no longer available, in which case Scholastic gives the student a gift (book or poster) and a credit voucher for the amount you have paid. You can then use this voucher to get your money back or choose a different book in the next Book Club.

Our school receives 20% of all book sales to use to buy books & resources for our library and classrooms.

If there are any problems, please feel free to talk to me
(I will be in the Library every Thursday),
Best wishes and happy reading,

Di Hendriks.

THE FIRST BOOK CLUB BROCHURES ARE GOING HOME SOON AND THE ORDER FORMS ARE DUE BACK BY MONDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

2015 Irish Fair Meeting Dates:
- 6 February 2015
- 12 February 2015
- 19 February 2015
- 6 March 2015
- 13 March 2015

Meetings held at 9am in the staffroom.
All welcome to whichever days you can come.
Irish Fair- Rides are booked, but we still need a lot of help planning and organising the Fair for next year. Next meeting tomorrow 9am in the staffroom.

Next week we are focussing on the Ring-a-bottle stall at the fair. Please send in as many soft drink bottles as you can for this popular game. There will be a prize for the class which brings in the most bottles.

Morning Tea- Come to the staffroom for morning tea and a chat. We will hold one on the 1st Friday of each term, and then the 1st Friday of each month. Younger children welcome.

Have a great week!

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**PIANO LESSONS 2015**

Dear Parents and Students,

Individual piano lessons will again be available to students at St. Joseph’s in 2015. These lessons take place during school hours. Lessons are:

- 30 minutes weekly
- $26.00 per lesson
- Include piano tuition and music theory

If you would like to enrol your child/ren for piano in 2015, please fill in the form below and hand in to the office.

Kind regards,


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**PIANO LESSONS 2015**

Yes! I would like my child ________________ in grade ____ to learn piano starting in Term 1 2015.

Parent’s signature__________________________________
Some 2014 FINAL CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE CHEQUES are at the office. Please either:

1. Collect your cheque
2. Sign it over
3. Contact the office if you want it sent home with your child

**If you live more than 4.8km from St Joseph’s and we are the nearest Catholic school you may be eligible for the 2015 Conveyance Allowance.**

If you have not completed a form for your child, please see Sue or Di at the office.

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**Wesburn Junior Football Club Registration Day**

BIG FOOTY CLINIC AND REGISTRATION DAY
Sunday 15TH FEB 2015 - 9.30am to 12.30pm - WARBURTON FOOTBALL OVAL

For more information contact wesburnjfc@gmail.com
Chris Read 0408 178 412
Brendon Murphy 0459 053 413
Website www.wesburnjfc.vcfl.com.au
Initially Wesburn will be offering Auskick through to Under 16's teams and a Girls U12 team in 2015 (subject to registration numbers)

*Note: The day may be postponed in the event of extreme weather conditions*

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**HOME-START VISITING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOW**

CONNECTIONS HOME-START IS A VOLUNTARY HOME VISITING SERVICE THAT OFFERS PRACTICAL SUPPORT AND FRIENDSHIP TO FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER EIGHT YEARS OF AGE.

Do you have?

- Two hours to spare each week?
- Have parenting experience?
- A desire to give back to the community
- A strong wish to support others
- An understanding of the challenges facing parents

We are currently looking for volunteers to participate in the connections Home-Start Program. A trained volunteer visits a family for two hours a week for up to 12 months. All volunteers will need to undertake an 8 week training program starting in February 2015. Home-Start offers ongoing support, training and supervision from the Home-Start Coordinator.

Please call Freya Dugan the Home-Start Coordinator to discuss your participation in this much needed program on 03 9724 2225 or email home-start@connections.org.au