Important Dates

FEBRUARY

Tues 9th Feb
Parent Information evening 6:30pm

Wed 10th Feb
Ash Wednesday Liturgy 1:00pm

Fri 12th Feb
SRC and Environment Representatives announced at assembly

Tues 23rd / Wed 24th Feb
Parent teacher exchange

MARCH

Thurs 10th / Fri 11th Mar
School Closure

Sat 5th March
Working Bee

Mon 14th March
Labour Day public holiday

Fri 18th March
St Joseph’s Feast Day

Mon 21st March
Harmony Day

Wedn 23rd March
Athletics carnival

Thurs 24th March
Last day of term, 1:00pm
Welcome to Year 1!

Welcome back to St Joseph’s for another busy and exciting year! We have really enjoyed meeting your children so far and are very impressed with how quickly they are settling into their new routines.

In the morning, the students need to be at school between 8:30am and 8:50am. If your child arrives on or after this time, please send them in to the classroom as quickly and quietly as possible to ensure a smooth and quiet start to the day for all students.

In the morning, the students know to place their own bags on their hooks, put their water bottle on the side bench and their ‘brain food’ on their desks.

We are looking forward to working with you this year, to ensure your child receives the best possible education. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns, queries or feedback.

Miss Louisa Di Pietro and Miss Anna Glumac
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SCHOOL LUNCHES

St Joseph’s strives towards sustainable practices. As such, please try to limit waste in the form of excess food or wrappers in your child’s lunchbox.

We are a ‘nut aware’ school and have some allergies in Year 1, so please pack your child’s lunches accordingly.

Each morning, we have a ‘brain snack’ at 10:00am. The brain snack can be fruit or vegetables, preferably something crunchy, to help the students reset for the second hour of the learning block.

Tuck shop

This year our tuck shop will be sourced from an independent company, Fun Fresh Foods. Tuck shop day will be Wednesday and will commence on the 10th February.

Tuck shop is ordered online from http://www.funfreshfoods.com.au/tuckshop/st-josephs-primary-school/. Orders need to be completed by 10:00pm on the Tuesday evening prior.
This term our unit of inquiry is titled ‘Healthy me, Healthy we!’ We are exploring the rich question, ‘How can I help make my community healthy?’ During this unit students will explore ways in which they can keep a healthy mind, body and spirit. We have some exciting incursions booked including a nutritionist who will conduct a healthy food theoretical and practical lesson with the children. This unit of work covers the AusVELS domains of ‘Civics and Citizenship’, ‘Personal Learning’, ‘Interpersonal Development’, ‘Biological Science’ and ‘Health and Physical Education’.

Some of the questions we are going to explore are:

- What does it mean to be physically and mentally healthy?
- When have you experienced love and forgiveness with your family and friends?
- How does the Catholic Church help to build strong communities?
- I am a living thing, how do I grow and change over time?
- What are values and why are they important to ensure we are all happy and safe?

**READ I N G:** Early this term, we will be assessing the students' literacy skills, in order to set their learning goals for the semester. Reading groups will likely commence in Week 4. Parent helpers are very welcome to assist during these morning literacy blocks, for which a roster will be pinned up outside each classroom. Our reading learning focus this term will be consolidating core reading skills, including decoding strategies, as well as building on the students’ literal and inferential comprehension skills.

**TAKE-HOME READERS:** These will commence in Week 4 after testing has been completed. Students will choose and swap their own readers in the morning, using the tubs in the corridor. Reading can be recorded in their Home Reading books and a sticker will be added to the class chart as each child reaches 25 nights and so on. At home, please focus on your child’s fluency and ask him or her regular comprehension questions.

**W R I T I N G:** This term our writing will be centered on writing to entertain. As such, students will be exposed to a range of narratives. Students will also explore writing to inform through recounting real events.

**H A N D W R I T I N G:** We will continue to practice correctly sized and formed Victorian Modern Cursive using 24mm dotted thirds. We will conduct weekly explicit handwriting lessons where students will practice such skills.

**S P E L L I N G:** This term, our spelling program will focus on the spelling of high frequency words. These can be practised at home also, using the sight words and list of spelling activities we will send home in each child’s communication pouch.
**Numeracy**

Through a range of hands on teaching and learning experiences, your children will be exposed to the following two week units this term:

- Place Value
- Addition
- Subtraction
- Length

We will focus on building a strong foundation of number knowledge, as this forms the basis for so many areas of numeracy.

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**1D MISSION STATEMENT**

In 1D, we want to make sure we have a happy class. We will have a happy class if we show respect for self, others and the environment.

We will show respect for self by looking after our work and making sure it is neat.

We will always listen carefully so we can try our best at every job. During Circle Time, we will only share if we want to.

We will show respect for others by being kind and helping them up when they fall.

We will make sure we include anyone who looks lonely. We will play safely in the playground and look after the toys our friends love. We will work as a team and be kind to each other during Circle Time.

We will show respect for the environment by looking after our classroom things, like putting the glue stick lids back on. We will turn the lights and computers off when we are not using them and we will keep our classroom clean. We will only ever use what we need and put the rest back. We will respect the playground by putting our rubbish in the bin.

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**SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)**

At St. Joseph’s we follow the ‘You Can Do It’ program, which covers five keys to success. These include Resilience, Confidence, Getting Along, Organisation and Persistence. The whole-school topic for this term is ‘Organisation’, which we will explore through the character ‘Olivia Organisation’.

The students will also participate in weekly Circle Time, where they will be given the opportunity to consider and share their thoughts and feelings in a safe setting.

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**Birthday Celebrations**

Birthdays are a special celebration in every child’s life and we are happy for you to send along a small, nut-free treat. Individual treats are preferred.
**SPECIALISTS**

This year our specialist classes will take place on a Wednesday, so students are required to wear their sport uniform on this day. The art smocks will be kept in the classroom.

**ITALIAN** – In Term 1, we will be learning and practicing introductions and greetings in Italian, as well as describing ourselves and others. As part of our Italian Day celebrations early in Term 2, we will enjoy a performance by the company Commedia dell Arte. In preparation for this, the children will be learning about some of the main characters from Commedia dell Arts, a form of theatre that originated in Italy, and some of the language specific to the performance.

**MUSIC** – We all know how wonderful music is and how it forms such an integral part in our lives, but what are the children going to learn? In Term 1 the children will be immersed in musical experiences such as singing, movement and playing percussion instruments. Through this, the children will begin to understand some of the elements of music such as beat, rhythm, form and how playing music involves working together as a team.

**ART** – During Term 1, the focus will be about ‘Healthy Me’ and making good choices. The children will create various construction pieces using a variety of mediums and materials depicting the Inquiry unit. An Easter activity will follow to conclude the term.

**P.E.** – This term, Year 1 will be focusing on athletics activities in preparation for our school carnival on Wednesday, 23 March. We will focus on activities such as sprints, hurdles, shotput and long jump. During the term, they will also have the opportunity to participate in the Tri Skills Gymnastics program. This will occur on Friday 12th, 19th, 26th of February and 4th of March. Sports uniform will be required on these days. We look forward to an exciting and busy term in Physical Education.

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**1G MISSION STATEMENT**

In 1G, we respect ourselves, others and the environment because...

We help our classmates to learn by encouraging them to do the things they cannot do.

We tell them to do their best and know that making mistakes helps us grow.

We care about each other and listen to everyone when they are speaking by making eye contact and not talking while others are speaking.

We help everyone and show respect for our classroom by taking care of our belongings.