

St Joseph's Primary Schofields Newsletter

Term 4 Week 10 2021

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a year we have had! Only 6 weeks of live learning this term but a lot packed into that time. Yesterday was a big day for the school with the graduation mass for Year 6 students. It was a beautiful and solemn occasion. The children wrote letters to their parents on their reflection day earlier in the term. What a touching moment when the children presented their letters! As part of the end of year the students prepared a Year Book where they wrote about their favourite memories of Primary school, their hopes for the future and their advice to their "kindergarten selves". I was very impressed to read that for many their favourite memories were when they were caring for others, their friends of course, but also the younger members of the school. Children new to the school wrote about how they were welcomed. Year 6 wrote about the fun they had at school on excursions and in class, community events such as the Colour Run and discos. Sport was another feature of their responses. Many kids spoke about their appreciation of the new buildings and their teachers.



What was even more impressive was the values they wrote about when giving advice to their kindergarten selves. It was such wise advice; to be kind, be confident, have fun - enjoy every moment, keep small worries small, ask for help, be safe, be true to yourself, learn from mistakes, never give up. Sometimes in the middle of a pandemic, you wonder as a parent and as a school if we have been able to guide the children well. The answers given in the Year 6 2021 Yearbook show that we have been able to and have nurtured some strong resilience that will support the children well as they continue on their life's journey.

As well as farewelling our Year 6 we are farewelling other families who are moving on to new schools. We are also losing two valued members of staff, **Miss Dennett** and **Mrs Keith**. Both are moving to schools closer to their home. I thank both these teachers for all their hard work, dedication and kindness.

This time of the year is always emotional. It's never easy to say goodbye. The last verse of our school prayer says it well:

***Lord, we pray that you will carry us in your loving hands and
guide us into the future
Amen***

Kind Regards,
Mrs Lesley Studans
Principal

Assistant Principal

I can't believe that we have come to the end of another school year - and what a year it has been. As a community, we have worked together to get through the lockdown and it makes me feel so privileged to be a part of this wonderful school community. This week we have had the kindergarten orientation. For as much as it is wonderful to welcome the kinder siblings and new families to our school, it is also sad to see the Year 6 students and some of our families leave. I would like to wish you all well as you join a new school community and especially to the Year 6 students as they start a new journey in high school.

May your Christmas be filled with joy and may you get to enjoy special moments with loved ones.

The Executive Director's Reading Challenge and the St Joseph's Summer Reading Challenge

Reading sparks our imagination and creativity and is also a great way for students to continue learning outside of the classroom.

It is so critical to keep up reading during the holidays with your children. Not only is reading exercise for the brain, it helps develop imagination and teaches children about the world around them. It also continues to develop and consolidate vital literacy skills the children have been learning at school all year.

Here are two competitions that you can enter as you read over the Summer Holiday.

Students can read anything they like to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, a piece of poetry, book, e-book or animated novel. Students can access e-books from our student e-book platforms [SORA](#) or [Wheelers](#).

The Executive Director's Reading Challenge

Taking part in the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge is easy! Students just need to read something they enjoy and tell us in 50 words or less why they loved it. The more a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of two \$500 JB Hi-Fi vouchers or one of 30 runner-up gift vouchers to the value of \$30. Students can enter [online](#) by visiting the CEDP website.

Entries open on 1st November 2021 and close at 5:00 pm on 25th February 2022. Terms and Conditions can be found [here](#).

St Joseph's Leap in2 Reading - Summer Reading Challenge

Over the summer holiday, keep up the reading and participate in the **St Josephs Leap in2 Reading Summer Holiday Challenge**. The challenge is to find yourself 'leap in2 reading' wherever you are during your Summer holiday. Send your photos to stjosephsevents22@gmail.com. Entries open on 16th December to 31st January

2022. These will be published on Facebook and a winner will be decided early Term 1 with a \$100 audible children's book online subscription to be won. Please indicate in the email if you **do not** wish your photo to be published on Facebook. You will still be eligible for the prize.

NOW ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS READ!



Mrs Joanna Delvecchio
Assistant Principal

Looking to 2022

Classes

Next Monday, the children will be able to meet their new teachers and new classmates for 2022.

Building

Over the holidays the demountables will be removed. An occupational certificate for the new building is being prepared ready for 2022. Finally, our classrooms will be ready!

The administration building, staff room and hall are being expanded and updated over the holidays. This work will still be occurring for a time when school is back. We hope to have the admin block ready for the new year so work will be happening all holidays.

Covid Restrictions

The Public Health Orders concerning schools are in place until March so we can expect a similar start to the year with grades cohorted, no large school gatherings and parents not on site.

Upcoming Important Dates

Mon, 13 th December	Orientation to new classes – Years 1 to 6
Tues, 14 th December	K-2 End of Year Liturgies in class groupings & Class Awards Ceremony
Wed, 15 th December	Y3-5 End of Year Liturgies in class groupings & Class Awards ceremony
Wed, 16 th December	Year 6 Guard of Honour

2022

Fri, 28 th January	MAI (K-6)
Mon, 31 st January	MAI (K-6)
Tues, 1 st February	Yr 1-6 Return to School
	MAI (Kindy)
Wed, 2 nd February	Kindy Start School

Religious Education Co-ordinator



St Vinnies Christmas Hampers



A huge thank you to all our families for the abundance of donations for the St Vinnies' Christmas Hampers.

Our school community has pulled together to ensure that other families have a merry Christmas this year.

Loving God,

During this holy season of Christmas we ask for
your blessing on all our families.

Let Mary's openness to your wondrous ways
be an inspiration to place all trust in you.

Let Joseph's courage provide hope during times of anxiety and uncertainty.

Let Jesus' life ignite all families with a spirit of light and love.

May the grace that encircled the Holy Family widen to embrace all our families.



Amen.

Wishing our St Joseph's families a very Merry and Peaceful Christmas.

Mrs Anne Watson
Religious Coordinator

Swimming Carnival

On Monday we held our annual Swimming Carnival at Riverstone Pool. It was an overcast but warm day just perfect for our school team of 48 students to hit the water and show us their amazing swimming skills. We were so blessed that the rain held off. Congratulations goes to all students who participated and tried their best, we are all so very proud of you.

Our school age champions are as follows:

Jnr. Boys Champion - Henri Leopardi
Jnr. Boys Runner Up Champion - Levi Dixon
Jnr. Girls Champion - Ella Murphy
Jnr. Girls Runner Up Champion - Charlotte Whitford



11yrs Boys Champion - Jad Alshoufi
11yrs Girls Champion - Chloe Ganchingco
11yrs Girls Runner Up Champion - Antonia Bonilla
Snr. Boys Champion - Jackson Miles
Snr. Boys Runner Up Champion - Jake West
Snr. Girls Champion - Astrid Gella

Our 2022 zone team will be announced in the new year.



Mrs Kimberley Turner
Sport's Coordinator

School Fees


Thank you to the families who have finalised their 2021 school fees for the year.

Please note that we will be closing off our receipting in the office on Friday, 10th December. If you have any EFT payments to be made in the office, please ensure it is done this week.


A reminder that our school is now cashless so we can't take any cash - only EFTPOS/Visa.

Students Not Returning in 2022

Should your child not be returning to St Joseph's in 2022, could you please contact the office.




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IDEAS to EXPERIMENTS






School Holidays Workshop January 2022

FULL DAY	13 JANUARY 2022	Cost:
HALF DAY	9:30am - 3:30pm	\$120/Full Day
	18 spots available	\$88/Half Day
	WWCC	

Booking Link:
<https://www.trybooking.com/BWDIQ>

RIVERSTONE OR NELSON/BOX HILL - TBC

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