Principal’s Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wish you all a very warm welcome to the start of our school year. This first week has been very smooth with the children and staff starting off on the right foot. It was very clear to me that students and parents were glad to see Monday come around. I am delighted to see learning taking place so quickly, as it should. I would like to publically thank the staff for the preparation they did to get the year off to a flying start. They worked hard to set up their classrooms to be both attractive and interesting.

Early Learning Centre—Our preschool children and staff have been settled and surprisingly comfortable in their new surroundings. It is a delight to see these little ones with us. Lunch and recess for the older students has seen them clinging to the fence and peering into the preschool playground to try and engage the little ones. The little ones in turn keep their focus on their teachers and largely ignore the older children, which confuses them a little. Congratulations to you parents for having your children ready for preschool. Successful transitions like this don’t happen by accident, so well done.

Kindergarten—What a sensible group of young people we seem to have. One of the biggest ‘crowds’ we get all year is the first day of Kindergarten. On Monday we really did have a large group of smiling and happy family members here to encourage our Kinders and to wish them well. A great start. We really do notice a difference since our preschool has opened with how much easier the start of Kindergarten is for our little ones. The preparation they get ‘over there’ and the transition processes in place here do seem to be effective, which is what we hope and plan for.

New Staff—Welcome back to Mrs Lynch and Mrs Rice (both 3LR) who return from maternity leave. It is good to have them both back with us. We welcome Mrs Thiele (KT), Mrs Bailey (1HB) and Mrs Thomas (Music) to our teaching staff and we hope they all enjoy their time with us. These returning and new staff already have made a positive contribution to our school in this first week.

Parent Information Night (Kinder to Year 6)—Tuesday 7 February at 7pm. Come along and meet your child’s teacher, Kinder to Year 6, for the year. On Monday we really did have a large group of smiling and happy family members here to encourage our Kinders and to wish them well. A great start. We really do notice a difference since our preschool has opened with how much easier the start of Kindergarten is for our little ones. The preparation they get ‘over there’ and the transition processes in place here do seem to be effective, which is what we hope and plan for.

Opening School Mass—Our school captains, house captains, peer leaders and all Year 6 students received their badges at our Opening School Mass this morning. These badges recognise the leadership role all Year 6 students have in our school. See inside for a list of students elected for particular leadership positions.

Wishing you well

Peter Galvin
Principal
School News

Happy Birthday wishes to every one who celebrated their Birthday during the Christmas holidays.

Medical Requirements—A reminder to keep the front office updated with your children’s medical information. Please inform the front office if your child/ren need medication during school hours.

School Newsletter—The newsletter will be distributed to families during week 1 in hard copy. From week 2 onwards, the newsletter will be distributed electronically via schoolbag and will be uploaded on to the school website. If you do not have access to the internet, please let the front office know and we can provide a hard copy of the newsletter each week.

School Fees—School fees will be emailed to all families during week 2, unless otherwise requested. Please ensure the front office has your correct email address.

Apps Download—A reminder to download:
Qkr! for various school payments, lunch orders and uniform orders
Skoolbag to receive up to date news items from the school

Skoolbag—In addition to the weekly newsletter, the school uses the Skoolbag app to communicate alerts and messages to parents and carers. Parents are invited to download the app from your relevant e-store (iTunes, Google Play, Windows Store) for installation on your mobile device. Parents should also configure the app to ensure you receive alerts and messages relevant to the classes your children are in. See https://skoolbag.com.au/forparents.php for instructions on downloading and configuring the app.

Families of former students who still happen to receive alerts, messages and emails from Skoolbag are invited to delete the app from your mobile device, and if applicable, unsubscribe from the email messages.

Extra Notes—If children lose a note between school and home, etc., then another note can be downloaded from the school website. We endeavour to place all notes sent home on to our website.

School Leaders with Special Responsibilities in 2017
School Captains: Kayla Q and Ben P
House Captains and Vice Captains are:
Mulley: Captain – Josip D Vice Captain – Mason H
Streeton: Captain – Oliver K Vice Captain - Katie E
Dixon: Captain – Isaac B Vice Captain – Sarah L
Hindmarsh: Captain – Kaitlyn K Vice Captain - Joeline S
Peer Leaders: Mia M, Leira M, Caleb H and Amelia L

Butterfly Room—HELP required covering books. If you are a keen contactor, then we have a need for you. We have about 500 books to cover ASAP so they can go into classrooms. We were wondering if people would be prepared to take home some and contact them for us. Please contact Karen Western via email on - karen.western@cg.catholic.edu.au if you can help out. We can send home a bag of books as soon as you email us. Thanks to everyone who donated books to the school last year. Between the parents donating over 1000 books, Verna, our trusty librarian, donating when and what she can and the generosity of the 2016 school budget, we have managed to give each class a solid starting class library. Thanks to Peter’s foresight, we now have book shelves that house the books with the grandeur they require. We are looking forward to helping to extend your child’s reading potential. With all of us working together, we can create a school of avid readers. That’s our goal!

ELC News

Happy Birthday to Oliver, Buster, Penny and Caden who all celebrated birthdays in the holidays.

A very warm welcome to all of our new and returning ELC families. It’s always lovely when we can welcome the siblings of past ELC children who have been looking forward to attending since their big brother or sister was here.

On Monday we welcomed our Joey and Wombats children and today we welcomed our Echidna class. The children have been busy exploring their new playground and learning spaces whilst getting to know one another and their teachers. The Joeys class enjoyed their first visit to library and the Echidnas and Wombat have that to look forward to.

Thank you all for having your children so well prepared for Preschool and for leaving with a confident smile each morning. I am looking forward to the year ahead.

ELC Parent Information Night—will be held on Tuesday 7 February from 6.15pm to 6.45pm and all ELC parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Parent Sharing Meetings—will be held at the ELC in weeks 3 and 4. Booking sheets will be available next week.

Welcome Picnic
This Friday, 3 February from 6pm on the school oval
BYO picnic, chairs etc.
The Community Council will also be running a sausage sizzle
St Jude’s Leadership Mass

Today we celebrated Mass for the first time this year where the Year 6 leaders for 2017 received their leadership badges. As a parish we pray for the Year 6 students as they endeavour to be great leaders and role models in 2017.

Prayer cloths

If there is a parent or grandparent who is a keen and able sewer, our teachers would really appreciate your help to sew some prayer cloths. Please let me know if you are able to help.

Sacraments for 2017

This year, three sacraments will be celebrated in our parish. The Sacrament of Confirmation for Year 6 students will be on Wednesday 3 May and Thursday 4 May. The Sacrament of Penance for Year 3 students will be on Wednesday 13 September and the Sacrament of First Holy Communion for Year 4 will be on the weekend of the 16/17 September. Can all parents of the students who are making the sacraments this year please log on to www.stjjwestoncreek.blogspot.com.au and fill in the registration for the specific sacrament.

Dates to remember:

∞ Confirmation Adult Formation, Tuesday 14 March, St Jude’s PS
∞ Confirmation Family Formation, Tuesday 28 March, St Jude’s PS
∞ Sacrament of Confirmation, Wednesday 3 May, St John Vianney’s Church
∞ Sacrament of Confirmation, Thursday 4 May, St Jude’s Church

God bless

Susan Chant
Religious Education Coordinator

School Community Council

Welcome back and a very warm welcome to all of our new St Jude’s families, I hope you all enjoyed the school holidays. I would like to share with you some information on the Welcome Picnic, Open Shed and the St Jude’s Fete.

Welcome Picnic—Tomorrow evening (Friday 3 February @ 6pm) we are once again holding our annual welcome picnic to celebrate the beginning of the school year. We will be running a sausage sizzle, so just bring a comfy rug to sit on and anything else you’d like to eat or drink. We would love to see as many St Jude’s families as possible on the night, it’s a great opportunity to meet up with old friends and make some new ones too.

Trash and Treasure Open Shed—The shed will be open on Sunday 5 February 2017, 10am to 12pm. Please bring down your pre-loved items for us to sell at the school fete.

Community Council Meeting – The Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th February 2017 at 7.30pm. Meetings are held in the Library and all are welcome.

Fete Date 2017—As most of us know, the fete is the Community Council’s biggest fundraiser each year and its success depends upon the efforts of many. Our fete will be on SATURDAY 18 MARCH. To run a fete is a big deal, so please consider where you might be able to assist. Class groups should nominate early if they have a desire to organise and run a particular stall – get in early! Please keep your eye out for further information and assist where you can. It is a great day and a lovely opportunity to contribute and get to know all of the fantastic members of our school community.

To keep up to date with events and news, follow the St Jude’s Community on Facebook. This page is run by the Council and advertises the St Jude’s Community of events and news.

Hope to see you all at the welcome picnic tomorrow evening from 6pm.

Nicky Bourke
Community Council Chair
stjudes.scc@gmail.com
Sports News

Registrations for the 2017 netball season now open!


Saturday morning winter season starts 25 March 2017 at the Arawang courts in Stirling. Junior players compete in the St Jude’s sports uniform.

Register and pay fees by 5 March 2017 for early payment discount. Late registrations after this date are subject to acceptance. Online credit card payments preferred.

Would you like to be part of the action? We need Coaches, Umpires and Team Managers to make every season a success. Please indicate your willingness to help when completing registrations or contact the Junior Convener.

For more information, or having trouble with online registration? Please contact the Saints Junior Convener Grant Faulkner grantmfaulkner@gmail.com

Like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SaintsNetballClubACT to stay up to date.

Library News

Welcome back!

Library classes for 2017:
ELC—Echidnas / Joeys on Wednesday, Wombats on Friday this year.
Tuesday—Kinder & Year 3 & Year 1HB Wednesday—Years 5 & 6 Thursday—Year 2 & Year 4 & Year 1L

All children in Years K – 3 need to have a Library bag to borrow books (any type of bag will do). Children may borrow / return books on any day that the Library is open and after school as well as during their class time.

NB: Last year I loaned out many library bags and quite a few are still missing, especially the calico bags with animals on the front. Please can they be found and returned to the Library. Today I loaned out every new bag I have and more, so could they please be returned next week as well. I am very happy to loan bags but I need them back each week for others to share.

Happy reading!

Verna Comley
Librarian
Welcome to our new families and welcome back to everyone else!

**COFFEE!!!**
Coffee and other hot beverages are available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8.15am through to 1.45pm. Pop in for a chat and purchase a roady!

**VOLUNTEERS**
I am so grateful to the parents/carers that have volunteered their precious time in the past and I understand that we are all busy! However without you all, Mulleygrub Café could not operate to the high standard it has in the past. Since starting at St Jude’s, I have introduced a lot of homemade options to weed out some of the preservatives and additives that are hidden in readymade food which takes time and preparation. Some of our regular helpers have moved on now or are needing to take a step back due to work commitments, so maybe it’s your turn to lend a hand and become a regular volunteer. Any amount of time is better than none. Thursdays and Fridays are especially busy so if you can, please come in and have a go. Remember to apply for a Working with Vulnerable People card (WWVP). It’s free for volunteers!

**LUNCH ORDERS**
Mulleygrub Café have an app called **QKR** that can be installed onto your smart phone. This is a convenient way to order your child/ren’s lunch as long as you confirm it **BEFORE 8am** on the day. Could parents/carers please update their child/ren’s class on **QKR**. The menu may have changed a little so please check the prices when placing orders or checking their child’s order if they have written it out and added it up themselves ensuring there are no mistakes with pricing or missing money for a paper bag. It may not sound like much however at the end of every week it amounts to quite a lot.

**MASTERCHEF**

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**Reading Corner**

We can’t **act** if we can’t **think**
and, in my opinion,
we can’t think if we don’t **READ**.

Jennifer Byrne

Mulleyduds—Uniform Shop

Mulleyduds will be OPEN between 3.00-3.30pm on the following Fridays:
February 10, 17 and 24
March 10 and 24

Summer Uniform Details:
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
Boys—Navy shorts, sky blue polo top, navy socks, black shoes, school hat, maroon polar fleece
Girls—Catholic schools summer dress, white socks, black shoes, school hat, maroon polar fleece
Optional for girls: Navy shorts, sky blue polo shirt, white socks, black shoes

Wednesday and Friday (Sports day)
Boys—Green shorts, gold/green sports top, white sport socks, sneakers, green polar fleece
Girls—Green skort or green shorts, gold/green sports top, white sports socks, sneakers, green polar fleece

St Jude's 'Spirit' Fete 2017

The 2017 St Jude’s ‘Spirit’ Fete is being held on Saturday 18 March, 10.00am - 2.00pm. Our school fete is the biggest fundraiser for the school each year and its success depends upon the efforts of many and the generous support from local businesses and the local community.

As the main fundraiser for the school, we hope you will all help in any way that you can. The key thing we need is volunteers as well as any donations you can make. As a first step, could you please let us know if you are interested in running a stall or if you would like to coordinate the same stall as last year. Once we have the final stalls confirmed, we will look at doing the online volunteer sign up register again.

For those of you who have already volunteered for the fete, know the value your children place on your involvement in their school. The fete is a great opportunity for all families to get involved in a fantastic event that brings pride to our children and our community.

We understand that everyone is busy but would be grateful for any time you can make to volunteer on the day. Thank you to those who have already contacted us and volunteered, if you haven’t done so yet can you please get in contact with the fete committee organisers or please get in contact with your year coordinators.

Information on ways that you can help will come out in the next couple of weeks so watch this space.

We look forward to your responses and look forward to seeing you on Friday at the St Jude’s Welcome BBQ.

Thanks
Fete Committee Organisers
Sylvia Gallagher, Kerri Argall & Nerida Baily
stjudespifete@gmail.com

FETE MATE is back!
Fete Mate had so much fun at last year’s fete that he/she is back again this year. Fete Mate is such a good mate, fete mate will even shout you lunch, a drink and other fun stuff on fete day. Look out for more information and order forms in the coming weeks.
Marymead’s 50th Year Anniversary

Family Fun Day

Sunday 26 February 2017

Marymead, 255 Goyder Street Narrabundah
11.00am – 3.00pm

Have you walked in the Marymead Walkathon or attended a Marymead event? Have you worked or volunteered for Marymead? Have you utilised one or more of Marymead’s services?

As part of Marymead’s 50th Anniversary celebrations we will be holding a Family Fun Day at Marymead’s Narrabundah site on Sunday 26th February from 11am to 3pm. There will be a jumping castle and lots of free activities for the kids, a sausage sizzle and soft drink for gold coin donations, entertainment and more, so please come along and enjoy a day with the Marymead Community!

Lucky Door Prizes • Raffle • Drinks • Sausage Sizzle • Popcorn • Face Painting • Picnic Games • Jumping Castle and much more!

Acknowledgement of Traditional Ownership: Marymead acknowledges the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to the elders both past and present.