Friday, 2 December 2016

NEWSLETTER

STAFFING UPDATE

As the school year is nearing the end we are in the final stages of confirming our staffing for 2017. This week I wish to inform parents that Miss Emma Kelly has been successful in obtaining a position within the Armidale Diocese beginning the 2017 school year and Mr Peter Stephens will conclude his full time contract with us at the end of the 2016. Mr Owen Hamill, our Trainee will head to university next year and will be replaced by Miss Lucie Williams.

As a result of recent advertising and an interview process we welcome to our teaching staff next year Mrs Kara Dewhurst, Mr Andrew Hurrell and Miss Lauren Ayres.

Mrs Dewhurst comes to us with extensive experience within the Lismore Diocese; Mr Hurrell is an ex-student of St Joseph’s here and has had extensive experience within the Bathurst Diocese. Miss Ayres is a recent Graduate from the University of Newcastle.

I am sure you will join with me in welcoming our new staff for 2017

A full complement of staffing will be included in next week’s newsletter.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2017

This is an important time as Year 5 prepare to take over the Student Leadership of our school. A period of preparation took place, in which roles were discussed, candidates nominated and speeches prepared and presented to the school community. The elections took place on Monday involving all students from Year 2 - Year 6 as well as staff. We congratulate our new School Leaders for 2017:

Bella Kilmurray and Jeffery Keena
(School Captains)

Jasymn Debreceny & Aidan Grove
(School Vice Captains)

We look forward to working closely next year, building an even stronger school community.

ADVENT – A TIME FOR PREPARATION

As we prepare for Christmas let us not lose sight of the true message of Christmas. Our season of Advent allows us to prepare ourselves, spirituality, for the Birth of Christ. This season is for giving, prayerful consideration and responding to the call God has for each and every one of us.

The following link to the XT3 website allows us to gather with our families each day and reflect on a daily aspect of this preparation.

Advent XT3 Click Here
Before & After School Care

2017

Last Wednesday evening we had Kylie Parks from Camp Australia come to our school and discuss how the Before & After School Care would operate from the beginning of next year. The session was very informative and the parents who attended were pleased with what they heard. Registrations are now being taken for 2017. If you are interested please register so you receive the information pack. You can register without making bookings, therefore you are not locked into any arrangement at this stage.

When you register you will require to have on hand the following information:

- Your CRN
- Your child’s CRN
- Medicare Card Number
- Ambulance Cover details
- Immunisation Record
- Emergency contact details.

Science Fair Wrap Up

Drones, Edison Robots, Virtual Reality, 3D Printing, Makey Makeys, Solar Cookers, Hovercrafts, Remote Control Cars, Experiments Ablaze! What an amazing day we had at our Science Fair this week. Thank you to Hastings Library and MacKillop College for supporting the day and to all the students and teachers who developed engaging experiments and designs. It was wonderful to see so many families come and support the day.

Police Liaison Officer

On Monday, Mrs Wendy Hudson, our community Police Liaison Officer, visited our school and spoke with the Stage 1 classes. During her visit Mrs Hudson spoke to the children about the role of police within the community. She also spoke about crime prevention, bullying, resilience, safe online behaviours and how to seek help should the need arise. The talks were most informative.

Renovations

The renovations to our old hall were completed on Wednesday. During this past week the new furniture was delivered. We thank Lianda Constructions for all their hard work in refurbishing the old hall. We look forward to using our new Flexible and Adaptive Learning Environment in 2017 to accommodate our Stage 3 students.

Year of Mercy Reflection Day

As a fitting conclusion to the Jubilee Year of Mercy we as a school are sharing in a Reflection Day on Thursday 8 December 2016. On this day all students will be treated to a FREE Sausage Sizzle, hosted by our P & F. We thank them for their continued support of our school. Please ensure all pre order lunch bags are returned by Tuesday 6 December 2016 so enough food can be ordered for the students.

Congratulations to our GOTCHA Winners this fortnight. They have been caught showing the face of God to others;

Ethan Begley and Mary Slater
TREAT WEEK

Next week we have set aside a section of every day to celebrate, with the children, a wonderful year of learning. It is very fitting for us to celebrate all the achievements of the children throughout the year and take time out to reflect on such progress. The timetable for each day’s activities is included in the calendar.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

As previously advised, we are requesting items for Christmas hampers. Our local St Vincent de Paul Chapter work tirelessly at this time of the year to assist families in need and appreciate our continued support. We ask that families contribute items no later than Friday of next week as we need to finalise the hampers. Thank you for generously supporting this cause.

CONGRATULATIONS, MRS COMAN

We celebrate and rejoice with Miss Agnew, newly married and returning as Mrs Coman. We wish herself and Scott a very bright future together.

BOOK PACKS

Book Packs for 2017 have been ordered and will arrive at school in the coming week. In previous years families have had to pay for Book Packs throughout Term 4. This will not be the case for 2017 Book Packs; I am sure families will appreciate this change leading up to Christmas. The cost of the Book Packs is being absorbed into the school budget. More details about where and when to collect your child’s book pack will be communicated with families as soon as possible.

CUPCAKE DAY

CANTEEN

MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2016

CUPCAKES $0.50 OR $1.00

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK to keep up to date with all that’s happening at St Joseph’s.

UNIFORM SHOP ADDITIONAL HOURS

The Uniform Shop is now taking Pre-order Forms in preparation for 2017.

The Uniform Shop is open the following days and times before the end of the 2016 school year;

Wednesday 7 December: 1.30 pm – 3.00pm

Wednesday 14 December: 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm

An additional day will be offered to families on Friday 27 January 2017, 9.00 am - 12.30 pm.

Pre-order forms are available at the School Office or on the school’s website. Payment can be via direct credit, Eftpos or cash.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK to keep up to date with all that’s happening at St Joseph’s.

UNIFORM SHOP ADDITIONAL HOURS

The Uniform Shop is now taking Pre-order Forms in preparation for 2017.

The Uniform Shop is open the following days and times before the end of the 2016 school year;

Wednesday 7 December: 1.30 pm – 3.00pm

Wednesday 14 December: 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm

An additional day will be offered to families on Friday 27 January 2017, 9.00 am - 12.30 pm.

Pre-order forms are available at the School Office or on the school’s website. Payment can be via direct credit, Eftpos or cash.

UNIFORM SHOP ADDITIONAL HOURS

The Uniform Shop is now taking Pre-order Forms in preparation for 2017.

The Uniform Shop is open the following days and times before the end of the 2016 school year;

Wednesday 7 December: 1.30 pm – 3.00pm

Wednesday 14 December: 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm

An additional day will be offered to families on Friday 27 January 2017, 9.00 am - 12.30 pm.

Pre-order forms are available at the School Office or on the school’s website. Payment can be via direct credit, Eftpos or cash.

CONGRATULATIONS, MRS COMAN

We celebrate and rejoice with Miss Agnew, newly married and returning as Mrs Coman. We wish herself and Scott a very bright future together.

BOOK PACKS

Book Packs for 2017 have been ordered and will arrive at school in the coming week. In previous years families have had to pay for Book Packs throughout Term 4. This will not be the case for 2017 Book Packs; I am sure families will appreciate this change leading up to Christmas. The cost of the Book Packs is being absorbed into the school budget. More details about where and when to collect your child’s book pack will be communicated with families as soon as possible.

CUPCAKE DAY

CANTEEN

MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2016

CUPCAKES $0.50 OR $1.00

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK to keep up to date with all that’s happening at St Joseph’s.

UNIFORM SHOP ADDITIONAL HOURS

The Uniform Shop is now taking Pre-order Forms in preparation for 2017.

The Uniform Shop is open the following days and times before the end of the 2016 school year;

Wednesday 7 December: 1.30 pm – 3.00pm

Wednesday 14 December: 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm

An additional day will be offered to families on Friday 27 January 2017, 9.00 am - 12.30 pm.

Pre-order forms are available at the School Office or on the school’s website. Payment can be via direct credit, Eftpos or cash.

‘Empowered quality learning in flexible and adaptive environments, utilising personalised and collaborative practices.’
FROM THE SPORTING FIELD

Diocesan Summer Sports Trials
Congratulations to Aidan Grove and Brendan Walsh on their participation at the Summer Sports Trials for cricket. The boys represented our school in fine fashion. The competition was strong and reports from the day confirm that the selection was difficult. Aidan and Brendan were very close to selection. Congratulations boys on a such great effort!

Golf And Bowls
Stage 2 have been loving their bowls experience. We would like to encourage children to have a go at bowls and visit the Country Club. They are keen for junior bowlers to try the sport and have bowls ready for children to play. A big thank you to the volunteers from the bowls club who have attended each week to instruct our children. Golf has been also been popular and hopefully this introduction has generated interest in the sport.

TREAT WEEK
(Activities highlighted in bold below)

Monday 5 December
• Stage 3 vs Staff Soccer Match

Tuesday 6 December
• End of Year Mass: OLOL Church, 9.30 am
• Christmas Card Making

Wednesday 7 December
• Christmas Craft
• Hastings Co-Op Commemorative Garden Opening

Thursday 8 December
• Whole School Reflection Day & Sausage Sizzle

Friday 9 December
• Semester 2 Reports sent home
• Tabloid Sports

Saturday 10 December
• Children’s Liturgy: OLOL Church, 6.00 pm

ADVANCE DATES

Wednesday 14 December
• Year 6 Fun Day, Kendall

Thursday 15 December
• Year 6 Graduation Mass & Supper: OLOL Church: 6pm

Friday 16 December
• Last day for students

2017 DATES

Friday 27 January 2017
• Uniform Shop open: 9.00 am – 12.30 pm

Monday 30 January 2017
• First day for Year 1 - Year 6
• 2017 Kindergarten BEST Start Assessment begins

Monday 6 February 2017
• 2017 Kindergarten begin

‘Empowered quality learning in flexible and adaptive environments, utilising personalised and collaborative practices.’