Dear Parents, Staff and Friends of St Joseph’s Community,

A very warm welcome to the 2017 school year. I hope that you have enjoyed a restful holiday break and feel refreshed and ready to start the new term. A very warm and sincere welcome to new students, families and teachers who are joining St Joseph’s Catholic High School this year.

New Staff Members
We welcome in 2017 Mr Shawn Fenech (HSIE), Mr Rob Hutchison (Mathematics), Mr Bryan Ie (Science Coordinator), Mr Joe O’Neill (English), Mr Aaron Plumb (HSIE) and Mr Jon Spicer (Maintenance & Grounds).

Also, welcome back to a number of staff who were on leave last year or have previously worked for St Joseph’s: Mrs Natalie Barnes, Ms Francesca Gazzola and Mrs Nicole Hensman.

Communication
Should you have any concerns regarding your child, in most cases, the first point of contact should be your child’s Year Coordinator. Year Coordinators for 2017 are:

Year 7 - Ms Kim Stuchbury
Year 8 - Mrs Jodie Linsley
Year 9 - Mrs Helen Sara
Year 10 - Ms Vicki Sproule
Year 11 - Mrs Elise Burns
Year 12 - Mr Kane Brown

2016 HSC Success
Congratulations to the Class of 2016 for their achievements in the Higher School Certificate. These results have been the best that students have achieved over the past decade. The school looks forward to celebrating this success on Wednesday 15th February, 2017 when we will host an assembly to formally acknowledge their achievements. The school has been very pleased to hear of the courses of study that these ex-students will be commencing at University or TAFE in the coming weeks, as well as the ex-students who have already commenced employment.

Advanced Notice: Enrolment Information for Year 7/2018
Open Days: Saturday 25th February and Saturday 18th March, 2017 from 10am to 2pm
Information Evening: Tuesday 7th March, 2017 @ 7pm
School Tours: Tuesday 28th February, Wednesday 8th March and Thursday 16th March, 2017 @ 9:30am

Mr John Barrington, Principal.
We would like to extend our congratulations to a group of Year 12 - 2016 students who were rewarded for their hard work and great results in the HSC, by being offered Scholarships at the University of Wollongong.

Congratulations to (left to right): Belinda Carrasco, Emma Schneider, Baylee Edlundh, Mikayla Brown, Heather Burton and Jordon De Barros.

Year 7 Immunisations
Please note that the date for the first day of Vaccinations for Year 7 students is 28th February, 2017. Information regarding the clinic will be sent home with students shortly and there will be more information in next week’s newsletter.

Mr Brett Moran, Administration Coordinator

Canteen Roster 2017

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Rosters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th Feb</td>
<td>Tahra Garcia, Christine Callaway</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th Feb</td>
<td>Elizabeth Oiteirin</td>
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<td>8th Feb</td>
<td>Derek Pyrah, Emma McLaughlin</td>
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<td>9th Feb</td>
<td>Christine Brown, Julianne Jemec</td>
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<td>10th Feb</td>
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Project Compassion 2017
This term our Year 8 and 9 students will lead awareness and fundraising for Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2017. The theme this year is “Love your neighbour”.

The six stories that will be shared with you for the six weeks of Lent reveal some of the ways lives can be transformed when we follow Jesus’ instruction to “Love your neighbour as yourself” (Matt: 22:39). For more than 50 years, Caritas Australia has worked together with the most vulnerable in First Australian communities and in many other countries to combat poverty, promote justice and uphold the dignity of every person.

For Lent in 2017, we hope that our school community demonstrated love for our neighbour through their actions and generosity. You can view the 2017 introduction [video here].

Saint Valentine Fundraiser
In the lead up to St Valentine’s Day, students in Years 10 to 12 will be given the opportunity to raise money for Project Compassion by purchasing a single stem rose. Students will have until Friday, 10th February to pre-order a rose for $8 which will be delivered anonymously to the recipient on St Valentine’s Day. Further, Cadbury chocolate hearts will be sold on the day for $1 and can be purchased by students in all year groups near the Canteen.

Come and Join the St Joseph’s Dragon Boat Team!!!
Come and race for St Joseph’s in the Annual Dragon Boat Challenge. The competition will be held on Saturday 4th March at Skiway Park, Oak Flats from 7:30am to 12 noon.
Welcome back! During the holidays, some of our sports stars were hard at work, training and competing at National Championships. Dylan Simmons represented NSW at the Indoor Hockey Championships. His team took home the gold medal by beating Victoria 4-2 in the final. Well done Dylan.

Samantha McGlashan's NSW Country Basketball Team took home the cup after beating teams from South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and New Zealand at the Australian Country Junior Basketball Cup in Albury. Congratulations Sam!

**School Sport 2017**

School sport commences this Friday with the following schedule:

- Years 7 and 8 - Females: Surf Awareness (remember to bring swimmers and towel for the beach).
- Years 7 and 8 - Males: Ten Pin Bowling
- Year 9: Beach Swimming, Golf, Bubble Soccer, Flip Out, Rollerskating, Ten Pin Bowling.

In order to attend Sport, it is a legal requirement that all students have permission. Have you returned the Annual Permission Note? These need to be returned electronically by 3:25pm on Thursday 2nd February in order for your child to attend sport this week. Students without permission will be staying at school for sport based activities this week and until the note has been returned. The Annual Permission Note was emailed at the end of last year and is also available on the Skoolbag App.

Students in Years 9 and 10 who have selected Flip Out are also required to return the waiver in order to go Trampolining for sport.

**Upcoming Sporting Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20th February</td>
<td>School Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>Albion Park Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd February</td>
<td>NSW All Schools Triathlon (Individual)</td>
<td>International Regatta Centre Penrith</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd February</td>
<td>NSW All Schools Triathlon (Teams)</td>
<td>International Regatta Centre Penrith</td>
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<td>2nd March</td>
<td>Girls Touch Football Diocesan Gala Day</td>
<td>Dalton Park Fairy Meadow</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th March</td>
<td>Boys Touch Football Diocesan Gala Day</td>
<td>Dalton Park Fairy Meadow</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th March</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
<td>St Joseph’s School Grounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>Diocesan Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>Corrimal Pool</td>
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Students who wish to represent St Joseph’s at any of the listed events are reminded to check the Sentral notices and their emails daily for information regarding signing up, selection trials and training. Any parents who are able to assist with coaching or managing any of the above teams are more than welcome to send me an email.

**St Joseph’s Swimming Carnival**

Our School Swimming Carnival is being held at Albion Park Pool on Monday 20th February. The carnival is compulsory for Years 7 and 8 and we encourage competitors from Years 9-12 to attend. There will be competitive and non-competitive events. We would really like to see as many students as possible attend the carnival and get involved. Stay tuned for more information in the near future.

If you are able to assist with timekeeping at the swimming carnival, please email me at garbuttm01@dow.catholic.edu.au. The help of parents, grandparents and older siblings is always valued and greatly appreciated.

**Welcome Year 7 ~ 2017 (Some First Day Snaps)**