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

End of Year Academic Presentations

Parents are reminded of our presentation days which will take place next week as detailed below. All parents and family members are invited to attend these events.

END OF YEAR PRESENTATIONS
END OF YEAR PRESENTATIONS FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-11 WILL BE HELD IN THE SCHOOL HALL ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

**WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER**

YEAR 9 - @ 9:30AM  
YEAR 10 - @ 11:45AM  
YEAR 11 - @ 1:45PM

**THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER**

YEAR 8 - @ 9:30AM  
YEAR 7 @ 11:45AM

STUDENTS WILL BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE WITH THEIR PARENTS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PRESENTATION.

Return to School Dates for Students in 2017

Friday 27th January, 2017 - Staff Development Day - Pupil Free  
Monday 30th January, 2017 - Staff Development Day - Pupil Free  
Tuesday 31st January, 2017 - Year 7 only commence  
Wednesday 1st February, 2017—Years 8-12 commence

Uniform Shop Trading

The shop will re-open on Friday 27th January from 9:30am-3pm and Monday 30th January from 12-4pm. Normal trading from Thursday 2nd February, 2017.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Year 12 students the very best of luck with the release of HSC results and ATAR’s next week. We look forward to seeing Year 12 students at their morning tea on Friday 16th December at 11am. We sincerely hope all students will join us.

Mr John Barrington  
Principal
End of Year Parent Teacher Interviews

End of Year Parent Teacher Interviews for students from Years 7-10, will be held on Friday 16th December, 2016. Interviews will commence at 8:00am and conclude at 11:30am in the school Hall. Where possible, students are asked to attend the interviews with their parents/carers, wearing full school uniform.

**Bookings open on Thursday 1st December @ 9am. Bookings will close on Thursday 15th December @3pm.**

Bookings for Parent Teacher Interviews can be made through the Parent Portal. Please access the Portal via the school website> scroll to the bottom of the page to Quick Links> Parent/Carer Links> Parent Portal Logon or click here!

Reports for students in Years 7-10 will be published in the Parent Portal. Students will not be issued with a hard copy. It is hoped that all reports will be published in the Portal by close of business on Tuesday 13th December, prior to Presentation Day. If you have not yet registered for the Parent Portal, please email corradinipo1@dow.catholic.edu.au to receive your registration information.

**End of Year Awards 7-10**

Parents of students in Years 7-10 have now be notified by email, if their child is receiving an award on Presentation Day (Academic or Special Award).

The awards presented at this year’s end of school Presentations will be allocated in the following process:

Each classroom teacher has been asked to provide an Academic Achievement and an Academic Encouragement Award for their class. Achievement Awards are given to those students who have demonstrated significant achievement throughout the course of the year. The Encouragement Award is allocated to those students who have demonstrated consistent effort and been diligent in performing to the best of their ability throughout the year.

Other significant awards may also be allocated depending on the year group and the external sponsorship programs that exist. End of Year Principal’s Awards are allocated by each Year Coordinator in consultation with the Principal and are not academically based.

A reminder to school families that you can shop for your child’s school resources online through OfficeMax. The online link to place your orders can be accessed here. Simply enter your access key which is shown on your child’s personalised information sheet which was provided to student’s via homeroom 2 weeks ago.

### Important Dates for your Diary

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/12</td>
<td>Giving Mass</td>
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<td>14/12</td>
<td>Presentation Day and Final Day for Years 9, 10 and 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>15/12</td>
<td>Presentation Day and Final Day for Years 7 and 8</td>
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<td>16/12</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews Years 7-10</td>
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<td>16/12</td>
<td>Year 12 Morning Tea 11am</td>
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<td>20/12</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>End of Term 4</td>
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### Canteen Roster 2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>12th Dec</td>
<td>Leisa Smith, Jodie Duff</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th Dec</td>
<td>Colleen Walsh, Dianne Meharg, Elizabeth Oiteirin</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Dec</td>
<td>Carmen Formosa, Emma and Garry Mclaughlin</td>
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<td>15th Dec</td>
<td>NO HELPERS REQUIRED</td>
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<td>16th Dec</td>
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**Giving Mass**
This Friday 9th December we will be celebrating our end of year Giving Mass whereby we bring forward our donations and gifts during the offertory procession for the St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal. Ms Hurley has done a wonderful job in coordinating this important aspect of our shared sense of mission as a School Community. We do this as a way of ‘Acting Justly’ for our wider community. The Mass is being held in the school gym during Periods 1 and 2 and all parents are invited to join us if you can.

**Staff and Students - Working Bee**
After Recess on Friday, we will be spending all of Period 3 and 4 by serving each other in a whole school clean up. Every area of the school will be cleaned inside and out with students and staff working together in various areas around the school. Pope Francis has invited all of us to be better stewards (carers) of creation and we are taking this invitation into action. To ‘Act Justly’, our school motto, means to treat others and our planet, with respect. This is a very practical way of ‘Acting Justly’; by serving each other in making our learning environments and our grounds, the best they can be. We have got a skip bin on site and we will be cleaning, sweeping, polishing, weeding and tidying up our environment in homeroom groups. This is also a great way to support the work of our school cleaners and gardeners who do this important work all the time. In preparation for Friday, we are asking students to come prepared with the following items where possible: sunscreen, hat, gardening gloves, rubber gloves (for inside cleaning jobs) and a spirit of generosity and service. Thank you for your ongoing support.

*Mr Marty Pannell, Religious Education Coordinator*

**Advent: Centred on Christ**
This Sunday gone was the Second Sunday of Advent, which marks half-way through our preparation season. The coming of Jesus reminds us to not only be aware of our neighbour, but to challenge ourselves to leave our comfort zones and prepare ourselves for a new arrival.

John the Baptist showed us how to do this in Sunday’s Gospel reading where he denounced the Pharisees and Sadducees for their wicked and selfish ways. At times, it can be difficult with all the unending Christmas shopping, elaborate parties, arrival of festive breaks and with the preparation for our family celebrations, to remember to centre ourselves on Christ.

We challenge ourselves by asking: What can I do for my neighbour to GIVE in this season of Advent? Can I give time, love, thoughts, conversation or effort to those who I have forgotten throughout the year? We are reminded of those who may be along on these days and consider them in our prayers. Our students have engaged with this message in providing gifts for families in our direct communities, who may be suffering at this difficult time.

This year’s liturgical season will close with the annual Giving Mass, which is to be held in the Gym this Friday 9th December, 2016. It will commence at 9:20am and all members of our school and parish communities are invited to attend. It is a wonderful opportunity for the students to show their generosity in creating Giving Bags for St Vincent de Paul in Albion Park and Shellharbour.

The season recommences with our Staff Opening Mass on the first day of the school term, January 27th at 11:30am at St Paul’s Albion Park. St Joseph’s staff will join with St Paul’s Primary School staff and all families and school community are invited to begin our year centred on Christ.

We sincerely hope that the community of St Joseph’s Catholic High School has had time over the last year to focus on building a strong relationship with God.

*Blessings, From Mrs Emma Williams, Liturgy Coordinator*
‘LIVE’ Festival for Youth

‘I came that you might have life - life to the full’ …… and to the full our students did!!

On Friday 2nd December, 17 students immersed themselves in the first Live Festival for Youth run by the Diocese of Wollongong in conjunction with the Youth Mission Team. It was a day full of games, inspiring talks, reflection, music, dancing, connecting with other students, connecting within and most of all connecting with their faith. Below are 2 testimonials from students who thoroughly enjoyed their experiences and we hope this will encourage future involvement with students and their faith.

“I have always enjoyed connecting with people who share the same interests as me, and in this case, I was fortunate enough to experience being a part of the Diocesan Youth Festival. This was not only an amazing event, but it also made me realise what a gift faith is. I never really took the time out of my day to talk to God or connect with Him and this festival taught me that it is not lame or silly like sometimes people make it out to be, rather, it is a love shared by all. You just have to let God into your life, he stands by you in every moment and it’s your choice to either block him out or let him in. At the Youth Festival we participated in a range of activities building strong bonds with each other; for me this was an amazing opportunity to talk to people I didn’t usually talk to at school. We made some amazing memories and had great times with each other. Personally my favourite part of the festival was the singing and dancing with the live music. The photos taken of the day mark the amazing time we all had together and I really hope I can be apart of other youth events like this. Thanks to the Youth Mission Team and everyone who helped run this event. I hope we all have another amazing chance to celebrate our relationship, not just with one another, but with God.”

“What a day!! It started with extreme heat but we were not to know yet... it would be 10 times hotter in the big red circus looking tent! As around 7 schools gathered for the first time in this big red circus tent, we were all so scared and fanning ourselves from the heat. Although, when the music started and people began to dance, friendships were made and everyone became involved. Dancing and joining in on the laughter and songs performed by the band. With happiness in the room, everyone soon forgot about the heat. At least for the first session. It soon became recess and we were back outside in the sun and could feel the extreme heat again. Throughout the duration of recess, people gathered around to play some games or wonder around making friends with chocolates or lollies. After what felt like a short break, we were back in the big red circus tent with everyone gathering around the fans. We then enjoyed a few more songs and some heart warming/eye opening talks from special guests. By now people were more comfortable and became more involved. After what seemed like another short session, we were greeted by lunch and our stomachs were rumbling. The St Joseph’s team headed down to McDonalds, which was very busy. We all gathered around on the small tables and ate our lunch. We then ventured to the beach but of course along the way Mr Pannell asked us to do the Mannequin Challenge….What a laugh that was! On our further adventure we enjoyed a quick splash in the beach and another silly photo. With minimal time left for lunch, we quickly ran up the burning hot sand and put on our shoes. When arriving back, males and females were split into groups. The girls had a presentation about facing life’s problems as a female and being a faithful Catholic. We specifically talked about the journey cycle and how we go around and around. We were then allowed to pick a relaxing activity to reflect on the previous session. In this session you could see that friendship groups had changed and they were now mixed. All in all it was such a great day. We were greeted and felt welcomed by the YMT and most importantly our staff representatives Mr Pannell and Mrs Luis, made us feel welcome and encouraged us to have a great day full of many laughs.
Year 10 Talented Mathematics Students Day @ UOW
On Friday 2nd December, a group of 13 students went to the University of Wollongong to participate in the 2016 Talented Mathematics Day. The day started with a short introduction and speech given to the selected students of the Catholic schools of the Wollongong Diocese from two of the University’s highly regarded Mathematicians: Destiny Paris and Song-Ping Zhu. Their speeches made us aware of the ‘beauty of Mathematics’ and how Mathematics degrees and careers can take you around the world and open countless pathways. After this we headed to the STEM building where we participated in problem solving activities in small groups from our school. Following a short lunch break we headed back into the STEM building to undertake more problem solving activities in groups of a mixture of students from other schools. At the end of this session, the day concluded with a brief meeting reflecting on how effective it was to work together at solving math's problems. The day was a great opportunity for these extension students to be challenged and explore new things in their study of Mathematics. Overall the experience was enriching and eye-opening and was beneficial for all the St Joseph’s students who were lucky enough to attend.

Lleyton Callaway and Chloe Pateman

University of Wollongong STEM Awards Evening - Year 12 Success again!
On the evening of Friday 2nd December Ms Kim Stutchbury and Mr Glenn Lowe attended the University of Wollongong’s STEM Awards Evening. They accompanied our Year 12 students, Aaron McMillan and Jasmine MacDonald. It was a fantastic success with Aaron being awarded Runner-up in the category of Indigenous Timber Products and Furniture Technology and Jasmine being awarded First place in the category of Women in Industrial Technology. We congratulate both students for their success.
2016 Illawarra Coal Regional Science Fair
On November 30 a selection of Year 8 and Year 10 students represented St Joseph’s at the University of Wollongong for the 2016 Illawarra Coal Regional Science Fair. Over 75 primary and secondary schools attended, with over 450 projects on display. A big ‘thank you’ to all participants for representing your school and for promoting the field of Science at the community level. In Year 8 we had Mayha Podolski, Chloe Markulic, Sophie Mills, Jessica Pateman, Patricia Guevarra, Bianca Cacciola and Emily Carter.

Representing Year 10 were Lleyton Callaway, Sonia Iafolla and Chloe Pateman. Certificates of “Commended” and “Highly Commended” will be sent out by the University when available.

Congratulations to all students involved.

Mr Chris Plattner, Science Teacher

Year 9 and 10 Marine and Aquaculture Technology
Last week students studying Marine and Aquaculture Technology were treated to a day trip at Jervis Bay Marine Park. The purpose of the day was to make cetacean observations and as luck would have it, students were able to see whales and dolphins up close while touring this fantastic natural environment.
As another year rapidly approaches its final week, it is important to highlight student achievements in all areas, even (especially) the avant-garde. I wanted to give a big shout-out to a group of students who have been diligently working in their own time (at recess and lunch) on a PIP (personal interest project) called a Computer Cluster. What is a computer cluster? A computer cluster is a single logical unit consisting of multiple computers that are linked through a network. The brainchild of Brennan Goedde of Year 10, the team of Charlie Windle, Samuel Apps, Kyle Quinn and Brennan have gathered 24 discarded but working Apple Macminis, a 24 port network switch, and an old trolley and joined them together to achieve a bank of computers with combined increased processing speed, larger storage capacity, and superior reliability. The computers run Ubuntu operating system and run simultaneously so that they can be used like a single “super” computer.

Whilst still in its developmental stage, the computer cluster could be used for different purposes such as password security checking, complex equation processing, and other specialty applications. The team is seen above with their fantastic creation. Not only can it be functional—it is a clever use of aging technology repurposed in another format. Also, the team would like to thank Aris Seitaridis and Jack Costello for their contributions to the project. If at any stage you think you possess a crazy/wild idea that could change the world or your own world and would like an area or resources to help make it happen, then please don’t hesitate to see Mr Casolin in the ICT office. Always looking to assist and encourage any potential Elon Musk, Bill Gates, Steve Wozniak. Never underestimate your potential but also don’t forget Mr Edison’s quote that—

“Genius is one percent inspiration, ninety nine percent perspiration.”

Thanks to TAS Faulty for the loan of room B2 for this immensely worthwhile project. There are more on the way...

Mr Danny Casolin - ICT Specialist

School Photos
As you would be aware we had some issues with our school photos this year. We have met with the company earlier this term and they have acknowledged the issues that have taken place. As a means to rectify this they have agreed to the following:

1. Families that had issues with their photos eg: missing, technical etc they have reprinted and upgraded the packs ordered to the premium packs. These will be distributed via homeroom in the coming days.

2. As students were missing from the year group booklets each family received, they have redeveloped the books to make sure everyone who had a photo taken has been included. Each family that ordered photos will receive an updated year booklet.

We have been busy proofing these booklets over the past week and are hopeful that they will be received before the end of the school year.
Congratulations to Tahlia Wilson who recently played in the Cricket Australia Female U18 National Championships in Tasmania. With an unbeaten 59 against Victoria, she assisted the ACT/NSW Country Team to finish 3rd in the tournament behind NSW Metro and Cricket Australia XI. After the tournament Tahlia was selected in the Cricket Australia U18 Female Talent Squad that will attend the Bupa National Cricket Centre in Brisbane ahead of the 2017-2018 season. Also at the conclusion of the championships, Tahlia was selected by the Women’s Youth Selection Panel to take part in the inaugural Women’s Big Bash League Placement Program with the Sydney Sixers. This is wonderful news and we congratulate Tahlia on her continued success.

Term 1, 2017 Calendar of Sports Events

School Swimming Carnival Monday 20th February
NSW All Schools Triathlon Wednesday 22nd February and Thursday 23rd February
Girls Touch Football Thursday 2nd March
Boys Touch Football Wednesday 8th March
Schools Cross Country Carnival Tuesday 14th March
Open Tennis Thursday 16th March
Rugby League Wednesday 22nd March

Mrs Michelle Garbutt, Sports Coordinator

All Saints Parish Christmas Carols
Friday 23rd December 7pm for 7:30pm start. Be a part of the initial Parish Christmas Carols, practice on Thursday nights 7-8:30pm. Singers, would be singers and musicians are all welcome!

Christmas Masses at All Saints Church
Mass times for the Feast of Christmas: 24th December 6pm and 8pm
25th December 9am

Please note there will be no evening Mass on Christmas Day 25th December, 2016.

Second Rite of Reconciliation in Preparation for Christmas—All Saints
Tuesday 20th December at 7:30pm
POSITION VACANT

Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Centre wants to employ a trainee. The successful candidate should be at least 16 years old and have a love of children and a passion to work in early childhood education. If you are interested please send your resume with a cover letter to: Bbc.earlylearningcentre@gmail.com

UOW Discovery Day

February 8th, 2017 many of our Year 12 students will be attending this valuable day at the Uni. Students need to be at school at 7.30am and will travel by bus and be back at approx. 3.30pm. If your son /daughter in Year 12 (2017) has not registered they will be at school.

DEVIIKA Learning

DEVIIKA comes to us highly recommended, they offer technology based courses in virtual reality, game development, website design and more. We are hoping to get this company presenting their courses here at school one afternoon per week as a extra curricula activity. If you are interested in attending a parent information session please email me for more information.

The following is an extract from MHSCAREERS NEWS if you wish to see more please email sue.kennedy@dow.catholic.edu.au

Career Advisory Service

19th to 21st December 2016

The advisory service is run by the Department of Education to provide up to date information for those students who have finished their HSC as well as their parents or caregivers. There is also access to post-school options, which includes information about work, study or balancing both. The website also has a list of useful links for those finishing school.


Macquarie University New Pathways for Teachers

Macquarie University is offering a pathway into teaching for students who are unsure whether they will meet the new Band 5 requirements. Those wishing to be a primary or early childhood educator are recommended to enroll in a Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education). For those wanting to be a secondary or primary or early childhood Macquarie recommends

- Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education)
- Bachelor of Arts with Bachelor of Education (Primary)
- Bachelor of Arts – Psychology with Bachelor of Education (Primary)
- Bachelor of Arts with Bachelor of Education (Secondary)
- Bachelor of Science with Bachelor of Education (Secondary)

For further information, contact Tristan Tulloch on (02) 9850 1890 or at tristan.tulloch@mq.edu.au


University of Wollongong Campus Tours

Campus tours will provide students with the opportunity to see where they can study at the University of Wollongong and who the teachers are. Tours will be guided by current students and also include viewing accommodation facilities. https://www.uow.edu.au/future/visit/index.html
TAFE Espresso Coffee Course
7th December
The Espresso Coffee Service course will provide instruction on the use of an espresso machine and how to make a range of coffee. Hygienic practices and proper cleaning of the machine is also taught. This course will suit anyone wishing to work full or part time in a café or as a barrister post school. https://www.tafensw.edu.au/course/TTPTHS0130/Statement-of-Attainment-in-Espresso-Coffee-Skills/

Youth Central: Finding an Apprenticeship or Traineeship
This page at Youth Central has useful information on finding an apprenticeship or traineeship, including the best places to look. http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-careers/apprenticeships-traineeships/finding-an-apprenticeship-or-traineeship

Australian Institute of Personal Trainers (AIPT) Traineeships
Traineeships offer the opportunity to gain employment and a recognised fitness qualification. In some circumstances there can be government funding depending on the trainee’s situation. http://www.aipt.edu.au/traineeships-courses/

Metro Screen: Five Part Interview Series
A five-part series that covers the key areas needed to develop a career in the film industry. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXiLT5gvaxw&feature=youtu.be

How to get experience if you have no experience
It can be hard to find your first job — often employers look favourably upon people with experience. This page has some tips on how to get some experience before you even do your first work experience. http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-careers/how-to-find-a-job/how-to-get-experience-if-you-have-no-experience

Study Options for Students Interested in Agriculture Careers

Camp America Information Session
7th December, 6:30pm, 10-14 Oxford Square, Darlinghurst
1st February 2017, 6:30pm, 10-14 Oxford Square, Darlinghurst
1st March 2017, 6:30pm, 10-14 Oxford Square, Darlinghurst
To find out more about working at a camp in America or the application process, register to attend one of Camp America’s information sessions. https://campamerica.com.au/events/

Future Teacher Scholarships, Cadetships and Internships
There are numerous scholarships open to for those interested in studying teaching. Some scholarships include a part-time job as either a cadetship or internship. For further information on how to apply follow the link below. https://teach.nsw.edu.au/getpaidtostudy

H2Oz
This website from the Australian Water Association has information and job postings about careers relating to water. http://www.h2oz.org.au/

USA Study Opportunities
This website has information about studying in the USA and can help when deciding which college suits you. http://www.internationallyeducated.com.au/

13 Places to Search for Jobs

HSC Results Released
The Good Universities Guide
University Pathways – The Facts:

Defence Jobs Australia Events
5 Dec: Parramatta: Defence Careers Information Session
6 Dec: Canberra: Army Reserve Information Session
6 Dec: Newcastle: Defence Careers Information Session
6 Dec: Dee Why: Army Reserve Information Session
6 Dec: Sydney: Women in Defence Information Session
7 Dec: Sydney: Race Into a Trade Career with the ADF
7 Dec: Sydney: Army Officer Information Session
8 Dec: Newcastle: Engineering Careers Information Session
8 Dec: Wollongong: Defence Careers Information Session
https://www.facebook.com/pg/DefenceJobsAustralia/events/
Junior Joey’s

Year 9 Child Studies students are hosting a playgroup on Monday 12th December from 9.30am-11.00am in the school library.

Parents, grandparents and carers are most welcome to bring children under 6 years of age along for a morning of fun activities (art and craft, singing, dancing, music and face painting).

A healthy morning tea will be provided.

As numbers are limited, please reserve your place by emailing garbuttm01@dow.catholic.edu.au or contacting Michelle Garbutt at the school.

See you there!