



## ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Mr John Barrington  
Tel: (02) 4230 8500  
Fax: (02) 4256 5793  
Student Absences: 4230 8585  
Postal Address: PO Box 130, Albion Park NSW 2527  
Email: [info@sjchsdown.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@sjchsdown.catholic.edu.au)  
Website: [www.sjchsdown.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sjchsdown.catholic.edu.au)

Date: 19th May, 2016

Term 2 Week 4A

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

This week the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference released the following Media Statement regarding the 2016 Federal Election.

### A VOTE FOR THE VOICELESS

Australia's Catholic Bishops have called for the voices of the thrown-away people to be heard in the long federal election campaign. The Bishops today issued a statement on the 2016 Federal Election, addressed to Catholics and all people of goodwill.

"During the long election campaign there will be much talk about the economy and the need for good economic management at a time of some uncertainty", the Bishops said. "Both sides of politics will state their economic credentials in a bid to win power.

The economy of course is important and there does need to be sound management. But, as Pope Francis has pointed out, there is also a danger that the economy can become a kind of false god to which even human beings have to be sacrificed.

This leads to what the Pope has called the throwaway culture - a culture of over-consumption where all kinds of things are thrown away, wasted, even human beings.

That is why we bishops want to speak a word as part of this campaign - not in order to push an ideological line or simply to defend the Church's interests but to give a voice to the voiceless and make their faces seen, however briefly in a statement such as this.

But it is not just individual people who are thrown away. The same can happen to the environment, both social and natural. At the heart of a healthy social environment there is marriage and the family.

The fact is that economic decisions have been less and less favourable to families in recent years; and it may be that political decisions in the future will undermine further the dignity and uniqueness of marriage as a lifelong union of man and woman. Support for marriage and the family does not look like a big vote-winner, so that even the most basic human institution, upon which the health of a society depends, can become part of the throwaway culture or at best an optional extra.

Pope Francis has said that the earth too cries out for justice at this time. The natural environment - the land we live on, the air we breathe, the water we drink - even this can become voiceless, so that the earth's cry for justice can go unheard. Now is the time to act, so that the natural environment is able to meet human needs rather than be sacrificed to the god of the economy".

You can find the full statement, including the Bishops' list of some of the people discarded in our throwaway culture, by clicking [here](#). The Bishops of Australia have traditionally published an election statement. Media queries, please contact Aoife Connors on 0450 348 597 or [media@catholic.org.au](mailto:media@catholic.org.au). Please find a few minutes to read the full statement which is included in this week's newsletter.

**Mr John Barrington, Principal**

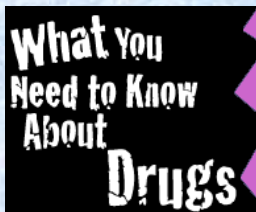


## NAPLAN Examinations Completed!

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all students in Years 7 and 9 for their participation in last week's NAPLAN exams. All students cooperated with the daily organisational changes and absentees were

very minimal with almost 100% participation in all subject areas. Examination papers have now been sent for marking and results should be received by the school mid August.

*Mr Paul Hughes, Curriculum Coordinator*



## Ecstasy

Stefan Woodward, 19, dies after taking Ecstasy at a music festival - *Sylvia Choi* overdosed at Stereosonic - just two of the many deaths caused by party drugs, reported in the media. Unfortunately, our youths are living in a society where party

drugs are often seen as the best way to have a good time. With a price sometimes as low as \$20, Ecstasy tablets are cheap and keep the user high for 4 hours! A recent article published on news.com.au reported that university students have commented that party drugs are cheaper to get high on as opposed to drinking alcohol. And to make things even more lethal, youths are mixing ecstasy with a combination cocktail of drugs such as ketamine, cannabis, LSD, mushrooms, GBH, speed, prescription drugs and alcohol. The perception often is by taking party drugs, *it won't hurt me!* Well, that couldn't be further from the truth. More often than not, what you are playing with is more potent than you thought and in some cases is not exactly what you thought - it can be a drug with far more dangerous - even deadly side effects. And even more concerning in this current time is the fact that teens and youths are willing to take whatever they've got, even when they learn it isn't the substance they thought it was, all in the name of FUN!

Sadly, we are being told that our youths are engaging in risky behaviours particularly around the use of drugs. Attached to this week's newsletter is a fact sheet outlining the short and long term affects of using Ecstasy. If you would also like to read the published articles referred to above please [click here](#) and [here](#). It is imperative as parents, that we remain vigilant with our children and should you notice any changes in behaviour, please address this as a matter of urgency. It very well could become a matter of life or death.

*Mrs Gail Tarrant, Pastoral Care Coordinator*



## Freedom Stories Film Screening

The Diocese of Wollongong has been given a wonderful opportunity in conjunction with Shellharbour City Council, Wollongong City Council and the University of Wollongong to screen the award winning documentary *Freedom Stories*. The screening will be held at Corpus Christi Catholic High School and will be held at 7pm on Thursday 9th June.

The documentary is based on a collection of personal stories from former asylum seekers who sought asylum in Australia around 2001, to escape the political turmoil in the Middle East. The film explores the achievements and stories of these former 'boat people', who upon arrival in Australia were locked in remote detention centres such as Woomera and Naura, and then placed on temporary protection visas for extended periods of time. Undeterred by such harsh treatment, they are finally building secure lives, through incredible resilience and the strong desire to contribute to their new country. Award winning director Steve Thomas, will be in attendance on the night and will join with local refugees for a Q&A after the screening. Entry is by gold coin donation and the proceeds will go to help fund the work of local refugee support group, SCARF. Please find attached a flyer promoting the film. You can [click here](#) to view a trailer of the film.

*Miss Senitta Hurley, Mission Coordinator*

"Did you see Dr Karl talking science at Joeys?"

**BREAKING NEWS & EVENTS FROM JOEYS**



<https://twitter.com/sjchsdow>  
Join us @sjchsdow



# SPORT REPORT

By Mrs Michelle Garbutt & Mr Brett Moran - Sport Coordinators

## Athletics Carnival

Our annual Athletics Carnival will be held tomorrow at John O'Dwyer Oval (Croome Sporting complex) in Albion Park. The carnival is a whole school event and all students are expected to attend. The carnival provides students with the opportunity to participate in a range of athletics events in both a competitive and social environment. The athletics carnival also provides competitive athletes with a pathway to go on and represent St Joseph's at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival on 17th August at Campbelltown Athletics Track. Students who place 1st in a track or field event, 1st or 2nd in the 200m or 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the 100m will be given a ribbon and permission note to attend the Diocesan Athletics Carnival in the St Joseph's Athletics Team.

Students are asked to make an effort and show house spirit by dressing up in their house colours. Remember that for safety reasons, appropriate running attire (sports uniform) needs to be worn whilst competing in events. Please see the information note attached to the newsletter for further information about the carnival.

**Congratulations** to *Maddie Smith* who has been selected in the NSW All Schools U16 years Hockey Team after an impressive performance as a member of the 16 years NSWCCC Hockey Team at the NSW All Schools Selection trials last Sunday.

And further congratulations to *Sione Lufe* who has been selected in the 16 years NSWCCC Rugby Union Team to play in three NSW All Schools Trials commencing at the end of the month.

## Year 8 Sport

Year 8 are enjoying participating in Tennis coaching, Netball training and SAVVY fitness for sport this term. Here are some happy snaps from sport last week!





### School Photos Tuesday 21st June

School Photos will be held on Tuesday 21st June. Students are required to wear Full Winter Uniform, including Blazer for school photos. Girls are required to have their hair tied up and no make-up is permitted. Normal School Uniform Policy applies. Individual and Siblings photos can be purchased. Students will be supplied with an envelope for photo day which they will need to present to the photographer in the hall when they go to have their photo taken. Payments can be made online prior to photo day by visiting [www.advancelife.com.au](http://www.advancelife.com.au) and entering the online payment code (which can be found on your child's envelope).

*Mrs Christina Fraser, Administration Coordinator*

©St Joseph's Catholic High School  
Licensed  
under Neals



### Tennis Training

Boys compulsory tennis training is on Friday afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm on our newly fenced Tennis Courts! This will prepare us well for the State Title Attempt!!

Mr Phipps

### Canteen Roster 2016

23rd May	Terry Thomas, Christine Callaway
24th May	Kellie Mundt, Rachael Woolfe
25th May	Angela Walker, Jan Collins
26th May	Sandy O'Connor, Lee-Ann Ginsburg
27th May	Amanda Walker, Nicki Collingburn

### Important Dates for your Diary

- 20/5 - School Athletics Carnival
- 23-27/5 - Preliminary VET Workplacement
- 2/06 - Conversation with the Bishop
- 7/06 - Year 7 Vaccinations
- 21/06 - School Photos
- 29/06 - 2/07 - School Musical
- 1/07 - Last Day of Term 2
- 18/07 - Year 7-10 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 19/07 - Staff Development Day (Pupil Free)

## parents & friends

### Parents and Friends' Association - Term 2 Meeting

The next General Meeting will be held on Monday 23 May, 2016 in the staff lunch room commencing at 7pm. All parents and friends are most welcome

### Uniform Shop

Trading hours - Monday from 12 noon to 4:15pm And  
Thursday 8:30am to 1:45pm



Friday May 20th, 2016  
"Active Kids are Health Kids"