

## ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Date: 10th December, 2015

Term 4 Week 10B

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

As the 2015 academic year draws to a close I would like to sincerely thank all who have contributed to the rich school life and spirit of the St Joseph's Catholic High School community throughout the year. Our school community is fortunate to have so many loyal supporters which results in such a positive learning environment for all students.

At the end of this year we say farewell and a sincere thank you to the following staff who will be leaving us: **Mrs Jackie Carlon, Ms Anita Chmurycz, Mr David Comensoli, Mrs Nicole Hensman, Mrs Julie Keedle, Mr Bruce Coyte, Mrs Angela Quinn, Ms Catherine Saunders, Mrs Trish Smith, Mrs Denise South, Mr Michael Timpano, Mrs Gabrielle Watson and Ms Sarah Wunsch.** Best wishes to each and everyone as they take on new endeavours in 2016.

Also best wishes to **Mrs Sue Biddle and Ms Francesca Gazzola** who will be on leave from the start of the 2016 school year.

*On behalf of the St Joseph's Catholic High School Community  
I extend to you all the joys and blessings of the Christmas season.*

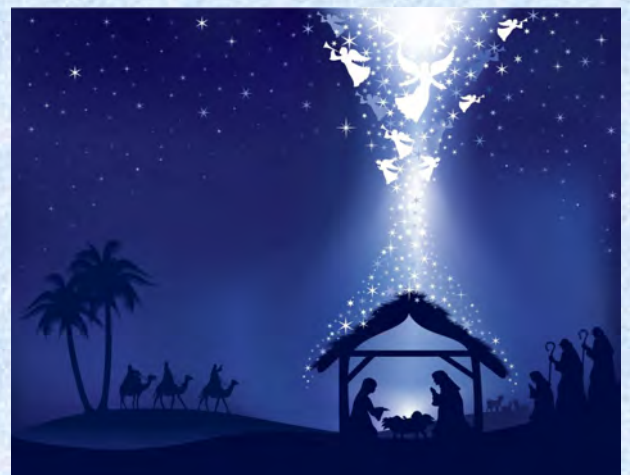
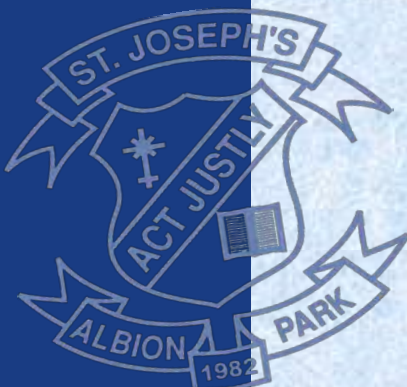
*Wishing you a holy and safe Christmas.*

*"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a*

*Saviour*

*who is Christ the Lord"*

Mr John Barrington, Principal





Pastoral Care  
Mrs Schibeci

The end of the year already! WOW, that went quickly. That means the end of our 2015 motivational pastoral theme of GROWTH: Gratitude, Resilience, Organisation, Wellbeing, The Body and Happiness. I hope our assemblies, Year meetings and pastoral time in homerooms, where we unpacked the aspects of our theme, have been beneficial for each and every one of our students.

Our Year Coordinators have worked very hard this year to provide our students with lots of opportunities to be informed about important topics and to develop the skills their students will need to maximise their potential. Topics were reinforced by guest presenters and specialised sessions in order for our students to experience GROWTH. Next year, there will be a new theme. We look forward to the new year and more opportunities to guide our students toward the best person they can be.

This year will be my last as the Pastoral Care Coordinator here at St Joseph's. It's important for a teacher to stay fresh and enthusiastic, so I have myself a beautiful bunch of energetic Year 7's to coordinate in 2016 and I'm very much looking forward to that. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Year Coordinators, who I maintain are the hardest workers in the school (I may be biased). They are very dedicated to our students and work hard for them. I'd also like to thank the Catholic Care Counsellors, Jenny Swann and Libby Warren, whose guidance and advice is gold and I'd like to thank Mr Barrington, the Leadership team and the wonderful colleagues who have valued the role of Pastoral Care in the school and have supported me in this challenging role. (Best be quiet now, sounding like an Oscar speech!).

Most of all, thank you to the wonderful parents who have and continue to support our school. After twenty years in pastoral care, do I have some advice for parents? Yes. Here it is:

- ◆ Be your child's parent, not friend
- ◆ Set boundaries early, hard to bring discipline in after the horse has bolted!
- ◆ Support the school at all costs - be united with the school, your child will benefit
- ◆ Eat together as a family, as much as you can
- ◆ Have a household routine
- ◆ Talk to your kids while you have them captured - in the car, waiting rooms, anywhere!
- ◆ Let kids be kids, don't try to share adult problems with them eg: finance, relationships
- ◆ Treat your partner with respect in front of them
- ◆ Bring your kids up together, as a united team
- ◆ Don't fall for the "Every one else is doing it/has it" routine
- ◆ Take them to Mass! As a family.

*Mrs Megan Schibeci, Pastoral Care Coordinator*

### **Parent Teacher Interviews Years 7-10**

**End of Year Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on  
Monday 14th December, 2015.**

**For students in Years 7-10, interviews will commence @ 8am to 10:30am.  
Bookings can only be made through the Sentral Parent Portal and will  
open on Monday 7th December at 3pm and  
close Sunday 13th December at 5pm.**

*~Carols in the Car Park ~ St Paul's Catholic Church, Albion Park ~  
Sunday 13th December 6pm - BBQ followed by Carols from 7pm-9pm. The School  
choir needs to arrive at 6:30pm so we can run through the songs!*

**2015: GROWTH ( GRATITUDE; RESILIENCE; ORGANISATION; WELLBEING; THE BODY; HAPPINESS)**



## Sentral Parent Communication in the New Year

Parents are reminded that from the start of 2016, teacher to parent communication will be via the Sentral Parent Portal. This is a final reminder to parents to please ensure that you have registered your access to the Parent Portal by the end of this year. Should you need any assistance with this process, please contact Mrs Penny Corradini by phone or email [corradinip01@dow.catholic.edu.au](mailto:corradinip01@dow.catholic.edu.au) before 18th December, 2015.

I wish all families a blessed and holy Christmas and a happy New Year and thank you for your support in 2015.

*Mrs Jenny Bell, Assistant Principal*

## Thirteen New Bench Seats for the COLA!!!!

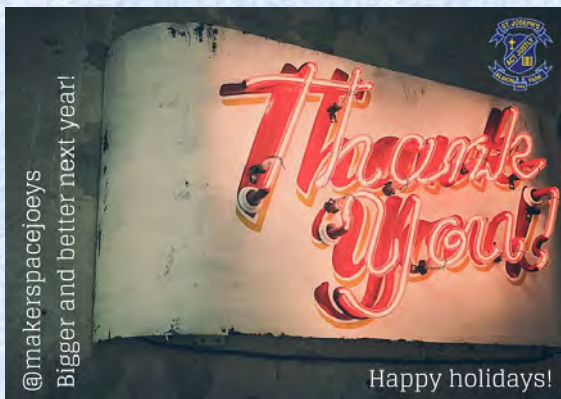
Year 8 APEL has had a marvellous semester with many achievements and events. As part of a topic on 'Student Voice', students came up with ideas to make positive changes to the school, then set about working towards making these changes real through advocacy and fundraising.

*Miranda Moffatt and Genevieve Milan* noticed that many Year 7 and 8 students ate their lunches sitting on the ground in the COLA, because of a lack of benches. They decided to approach Mrs Bell to find out how the school could acquire new benches and aimed to raise money to purchase at least one bench. Through a combination of hard work, persistence and luck, these girls managed to facilitate the purchase of thirteen new aluminium park benches! The school generously covered the cost of the benches, with the girls selling bags of lollies in the COLA to contribute to the purchase. The benches will be installed in the COLA over the holidays, ready for next year's Year 7 and 8 to enjoy. While students eat their lunch on the comfortable benches, they will be reminded of Year 8 APEL's achievement by the plaque which will be affixed to one of the benches.



We would like to thank staff who have been so generous, enthusiastic and helpful. I think it speaks volumes that the teachers and Leadership team at this school listen to students and put time, effort and money into making their ideas become reality.

*Mrs Catherine Saunders, Year 8 APEL Teacher*



## Makerspace Update

It's been a rewarding year for us @ makerspacejoey's - and although it's been a long and arduous journey - the birth of an idea has been satisfying and we are sure it has long-term merit for students of creativity. Makerspaces are still a relatively new (although very-much proven) concept in education and we believe we are leaders in this area.

I would just like to say thanks to all the students of WeCanDoIT in Year 10 that helped launch makerspace in Room 7 this year. Well done and congratulations to all the student makers from all year groups who have committed to a project and stuck with it and those that are continuing to work on their projects over the holidays. Brilliant!

Special thanks to *Jake Reid* for offering to help in makerspace and around the school (our go-to man for photography) and being an excellent mentor to the younger students and also special thanks to *Justin Apps* who has continually pushed himself to learn new skills in all areas and is always willing to help others with their ideas. Thank you to Mr Lowe, Mr Milburn and Mr Brown for their generous support, use of TAS rooms and excellent facilities so that students wanting to learn outside the classroom have a space where they can continue to grow. The TAS facilities we have at St Joseph's are fantastic and any student wanting to create something of their own is strongly encouraged to continue to do so in the new year. The availability of the Laser-Cutter, 3D printer and sticker printers as well as all the tools and machinery in the TAS workshops is a massive plus for anyone inspired to learn and make something of their own. Thank you to parents and staff for their positive feedback and support and especially to all makers of all ages.

**Remember: Consume less, create more!**

*Mr Danny Casolin*

**2015: GROWTH ( GRATITUDE; RESILIENCE; ORGANISATION; WELLBEING; THE BODY; HAPPINESS)**

## Holiday Fun in IT, Science, Technology and Engineering

There are a number of activities that students interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) can get involved in over the school holidays and beyond. Some examples of workshops and activities:



- ◆ Bridge Design Software, which includes simulated forces and costs, is available free from Engineering Encounters. It is suitable for Year 5 students upwards, who can participate in an international online competition
- ◆ Engquest is an Australian initiative to interest students from Year 4 to Year 8 in Engineering. The site has a number of quizzes and challenges that provide good information and engaging practical activities
- ◆ Girl Code will run computer programming activities for girls in Years 5 to 8 in early January in Sydney, Western Sydney and Wollongong
- ◆ Exhibition: Designing your Future at Sydney Olympic Park, which showcases the work of South Western Sydney Institute's Lidcombe design students, runs from Monday 5th December to the end of January and is suitable for all students
- ◆ The Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (Power House Museum) has hands on workshops for children available at different times and for varying age groups.

Click [here](#) to access further details.

*Mrs Deb Boughton, ICLT Coordinator*

## *Giving Mass*

Last Friday St Joseph's donated goods to the St Vincent De

Paul Society to be distributed to deserving families in the Illawarra region as part of their Christmas Appeal. The process of raising money and buying gifts for each homeroom's allocated family was a joyful experience and heightened the feeling of generosity this Advent season. The Giving Mass with Father Richard Healy was a humbling experience and allowed us as a school community to rejoice in prayer and the Gospel. Representatives from Vinnies, Anna and Bernadetta, gave a speech about the families who will be given the donated gifts. The appreciation they showed encouraged us to continue to be charitable not only at Christmas time, but throughout the entire year.

*Molly Fenton, Year 11*



2015: GROWTH ( GRATITUDE; RESILIENCE; ORGANISATION; WELLBEING; THE BODY; HAPPINESS )

# SPORT REPORT

By Mrs Michelle Garbutt & Mrs Jodie Linsley - Sport Coordinators

**Congratulations** to *Callum Barton, Ben Lavender, Blake Smith and Jackson Burns* who won the South Coast U/14 Boys Southern Zone Cricket grand final. *Callum and Blake* were also selected in the Southern Zone team to play in a trial match against ACT on Sunday 13th December at Nowra. We are so proud of their effort and wish them well along what is hoped to be the pathway to NSW Country selection!



**The Junior Boys Cricket Team have just won their game in the Berg Shield and will now progress to the next round making them part of the last 8 teams in the state!! Fantastic effort! Congratulations!**

## Representative Sport at St Josephs 2016

Would you like to represent St Joseph's at:

*Touch, Triathlon, Soccer, Tennis, Rugby Union (Boys and Girls), Rugby League (Boys and Girls), League Tag, Dragon Boat or Netball????*

Then please sign up TODAY! You were emailed a Google form last week. Let us know what sport you would like to trial for. Tennis trials are on now.

## NSW All Schools Triathlon

Would you like to compete in a Triathlon as an individual OR as part of a team? Represent St Joseph's at the NSW All Schools Triathlon on Thursday 26th February (individual) and Friday 27th February (teams) at the Penrith Regatta Centre.

### Distances for the Individual event :

Juniors 12, 13 and 14 years	400m swim	10km cycle	3km run
Intermediates 15, 16 years	600m swim	15km cycle	4km run
Seniors 17, 18, 19 years	750m swim	20km cycle	5km run

### Distances for the team event :

Juniors	400m swim	10km cycle	3km run
Intermediates/Seniors	600m swim	15km cycle	4km run

Interested???

Then complete the google form. Enter a Team or your interest of being in a team.

This is a great opportunity to build school spirit

**FREE GIFT WRAPPING**

Give the gift of blood

Christmas Eve - 4 Jan




## Australian Red Cross Blood Service

As we come into the Christmas season of giving, you have the power to help ensure there's enough blood for patients who will require blood donations this Christmas and New Year. Many of us cannot donate during the holiday break, which puts a strain on stocks particularly between 24 December and 4 January. If you could donate at this crucial time, it means patients can receive the lifesaving donations they need. Don't forget to add St Joseph's

Catholic High School's name to the blood application form as it will add points to our tally in the Illawarra Schools Blood Challenge. If you require any further information, contact Red Cross on 131495 or visit [donateblood.com.au](http://donateblood.com.au). [nse01@dow.catholic.edu.au](mailto:nse01@dow.catholic.edu.au).

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Uniform Shop

**NOW CLOSED FOR 2015**

**Re-Open 21st and 22nd January, 2016**

**from 9:30 till 3pm and then normal trading hours when Term 1 commences.**

The Magic of  
*Christmas*  
is not in the presents,  
but in *His* presence

# What's happening at St Joseph's

## Australian Catholic Youth Festival

Last Thursday, 7 Year 10 students made the journey down to Adelaide for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. Joined by 4000 other young people from all over Australia, these students celebrated our common bonds and beliefs through a variety of plenaries, stalls, workshops and celebrations. With the other 50 students from schools across the Wollongong Diocese, students sang and danced with Bishop Peter Ingham to Steve Angrisano, listened to the wise words of Sister Hilda Scott and learnt a whole lot about how being Catholic today is both changing and challenging. The highlights varied - the Divine Mercy chaplet to the discussion about valuing self and chastity by Jason Evert.

The festival concluded with the announcement that in 2017 Sydney will be hosting the Australian Catholic Youth Festival, with Wollongong in a support role. As a school and a small group we are incredibly excited about our faith and hope you will all be open to the 2017 Sydney Australian Catholic Youth Festival.



2015: GROWTH ( GRATITUDE; RESILIENCE; ORGANISATION; WELLBEING; THE BODY; HAPPINESS)

# What's happening at St Joseph's

## Student Success



Congratulations to Damon Dropulic - Year 12 pictured above receiving his award for the University of Wollongong - Design and Technology Competition-Indigenous Student Award.

And further congratulations are extended to Jessica Skofic of Year 9 who has won a major award from the University of Wollongong for her design of a Metal Tool Box. Jessica will be presented with her award next week.



**Great Work Jessica!**

# What's happening at St Joseph's

## Student Success

Alana Seritti has submitted an excellent Personal Interest Project for her Marine and Aquaculture Technology Course. She collected old thongs from around water fronts that were polluting the marine environment and combined them to produce a 3D Fish. Congratulations to Alana on a fantastic effort and contributing to the clean up of our precious environment.



### **School Musical Seven Brides for Seven Brothers 2015**

Congratulations to the cast, crew and staff for winning the annual Arcadian's Theatre Group Inter-School Musical Drama Awards for 2015 with their production of Seven Brides for Seven Brothers. This competition is for all high schools in the Illawarra, Southern Highlands and South Coast regions and showcases the talent of our local high school students. Congratulations to all the schools who participated in this competition. It was a close finish for first place against Smiths Hill's production of Guys and Dolls but we came out winners by 1 point. We will be presented with the trophy at a whole school assembly early next year.



In 2016...we will be presenting **HAIRSPRAY!** Keep the dates at the end of Term 3 for our next adventure.

Hairspray is set in the 1960's in Baltimore. Dance loving teen Tracy Turnblad auditions for a spot on "The Corny Collins Show" and wins. She becomes an overnight celebrity, a trendsetter in dance, fun and fashion. Perhaps her new status as a teen sensation is enough to topple Corny's reigning dance queen and bring racial integration to the show.

This should be a great production!!!



# What's happening at St Joseph's

## Outstanding Student Work

The use of technology is in no way a guarantee that work submitted by students is 'outstanding'. But, technology is something that can encourage and facilitate the creation of outstanding work if students use it to its potential.

It is important to recognise and promote student work that stands out so that other observers can see the merit of technology in education when used appropriately. Technology is an "enabler" within the classroom and can certainly enhance great learning.

At St Joseph's, students from all year groups have submitted work that is of outstanding quality. We would like to share two examples of work from Year 7 students that show the power of learning when technology is married into their understanding of concepts in their relevant subject areas.

The first work was created by Jacina Olivieri as an assessment task for Ms Masi's Maths class. The assessment task was to create a movie that proves an understanding in an area of Maths that they were studying. Jacina's video is sort of infomercial, including many clever techniques to engage the audience whilst getting her point across. It includes a news story, advertisement and infomercial type explanation with great acting and humour incorporated to explain the concept of equivalent fractions. Fantastic effort by Jacina. Click [here](#) to view Jacina's work.

The second work is from Pj Ong of Year 7 and was an assessment that was submitted for Ms Sproule's Geography class. The students needed to make a mini movie to support their understanding of the man's impact and damage to the environment and in particular to the Great Barrier Reef. Pj uses engaging stop motion technique in his short video to show his understanding of how man has affected our environment and what can be done to remedy the situation. There is a great amount of effort in the creation of props used in the clip and lots of imagination in putting the story together.

Click [here](#) for Pj's "Fight for the Reef" stop-motion video.

Mr Danny Casolin

## What did you miss at Joeys this week?



Students at Australian Catholic Youth Festival Adelaide...  
Jessica Skofic Y10 UOW award in Industrial Technology Metal ...  
Alana Seritti's outstanding PIP in Marine Tech - enviro Sustainability...  
Y11 Construction class in action...  
Rocket launch day today for Mr Lemmon's physics class...  
John Iafolla "rocket man" title for record distance for rocket launch...  
Fr Richard Healey helping us celebrate Giving Mass for Vinnies...  
Y9 & Y11 learning support students visit to Villa Maria Nursing home...  
Y11 Construction class in action pouring concrete...  
and much much more... (click on link below)

<https://twitter.com/sjchsdow>

JOIN US @sjchsdow



## Important Dates for your Diary

**14th Dec - Parent Teacher Interviews  
Years 7-10**

**16th Dec - HSC Results released**

**17th Dec - ATAR's released &**

**Year 12 Celebration 11am-12:30pm**

**18th Dec - End of Term 4**

**2016**

**Year 7 commence Thursday 28 January**

**Years 8-12 commence Friday 29 January**

*Merry Christmas ~ See you all next year!*

**2015: GROWTH ( GRATITUDE; RESILIENCE; ORGANISATION; WELLBEING; THE BODY; HAPPINESS)**

**FREE TICKETS**  
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL  
Book at [christmasunwrapped.com.au](http://christmasunwrapped.com.au)



# Christmas Unwrapped

*A Christmas Show Big Enough for All the Family*



**December 20**  
Doors Open at 10:30am

**THE CUBE**  
Campbelltown Catholic Club  
20-22 Camden Rd,  
Campbelltown NSW

During the Christmas season, it's pretty easy to get wrapped up in...well, what's wrapped up, like all that stuff under the Christmas tree marked with your name.

Imagine, though, what could happen if families in our community got wrapped up in generosity instead. That's why we put together a Christmas Family Experience called Christmas Unwrapped.

Organized around the telling of the Christmas story, Christmas Unwrapped will encourage and inspire families to get wrapped up in the idea of generosity and how God gave us His Son, Jesus.

So this year, why don't you start a new tradition and invite some friends and neighbours to join you for a fun and exciting way to celebrate Christmas with your family.

For your FREE tickets  
Register at [christmasunwrapped.com.au](http://christmasunwrapped.com.au)



Wishing you a happy and holy Christmas  
Bishop Peter Ingham

