Dear Families,

Reflection

This is the beginning of a new year.
We have been given this year to use as we will. We can waste it or use it.
We can make it a year long to be remembered for its joy,
its beauty, its achievements, or it can be filled with pettiness.
What we do together this year is important, for at its end we will all be
Different to the way we were at its beginning.
The type of difference depends upon each of us.
May God be at the source of all our actions.
May God’s Spirit be our constant guide.

A warm welcome to the 2016 school year with all its joys, learning, challenges and opportunities that each day may present. We have had a wonderful start to the school year with all children settling well into their classes. It was wonderful to see so many teachers in during the school holidays, preparing work on curriculum and setting their rooms up as vibrant learning environments for the children. It is always pleasing to start the year well and see so many children feeling comfortable, and ready to learn, as we commence 2016.

We especially welcome all new families to St Joseph’s and in particular our new preps and their families to our school. We hope that your time at St Joseph’s will be rewarding, full of many learning experiences and enriched with God’s blessings.

We also welcome Mrs Cheryl Capon (Leader of Learning -Literacy and Numeracy) and Terriann Paulger (Prep) who have recently started at our school. We are thrilled to have them on board with us this year.

Family BBQ

Our family BBQ (sausages in bread) to welcome the new year is being held on Tuesday 16th February. This is an opportunity for all our families to gather on the school oval and have some sausages together. As per last year there will be two flat rates for the night: $5 for small families (3 people or less), $10 for larger families. Payment can be made on the night, but it would be preferable for families to send an envelope with their name and money and number of family members attending so that we can order enough food for the night. Please BYO drinks and picnic blankets or chairs. The BBQ will commence at 6.00pm. It will not be a late night. If you can help out on the BBQ or with serving, please write that on the envelope as well.

Whole School Mass This Friday

We are celebrating Mass as a school this Friday at 9.30am at St Joseph’s Church. Children in years 1 to 6 will be attending this Mass. Please attend if you can. All very welcome.

School Crossing

Could all Parents/Students crossing over Burke Street please utilise the School Crossing. It is very unsafe to cross anywhere else other than the designated crossing.
School Entry Time
This year all classrooms will open at 8.40am allowing children, and parents, to enter the classrooms and organise bags/books etc. for the day; and to chat with the teacher if required. Children also have the opportunity to go back outside to play once placing their bag inside. At 8.55am music will play alerting all children to go to the toilet, get a drink if required, and then enter their classrooms ready for formal classes at 9.00am. Children and parents are not able to enter classrooms until this time, unless specifically directed by teacher. Please note that entry into the school is via the admin block, doors on the northern side of the school (near the hall and multipurpose room) and the southern side (near the multipurpose room) and via all classroom doors after 8:40am. Entry and exit via the hall and the doors leading into the hall is not permitted!

Lunch Orders
Commencing this year each classroom will have their own lunch bags for lunch orders. Children with a lunch order will be required to place their order in the bags provided in their classroom. Bags will be collected from the rooms and returned just before lunch time. Please make sure you have your child’s name and grade on the lunch order.

Maintenance Works
During the holidays a number of works were conducted, aside from the normal cleaning and carpet cleaning. These included:
* Outside of the school cleaned and painted.
* Playground lines renewed with additional markings.
* Five Classrooms had either a northern or southern facing wall painted.
* New classroom furniture ordered for the prep classrooms.
* New bag lockers, to replace bag hooks, outside of the 1&2 and prep classrooms.
* Security alarms repaired and new additions to the corridor (happening soon).
In the coming weeks we will also replace all spouting on the southern and northern side of the main building. In addition we will replace in excess of 70 plus stained/damaged ceiling panels in the main building.

Newsletter
The school newsletter is one vital form of communication between the school and families. We urge you to read the newsletter to find out what is happening throughout the year. Our newsletter is on line-website and on our school App. If you have not downloaded the school App we strongly encourage you to do so: its free!

Signing Children In And Out Of School
If your child needs to leave early, or has an appointment, then parents must sign them out. If they return, or you arrive late at school, the child must be signed in when they return/arrive. A note (or email) must be supplied to the classroom teacher so that they are aware of why the child is leaving and they can then record the absence. If your child is unwell, speed up their recovery by keeping them at home, not allowing them to return to school until they are fully recovered!

SunSmart
A reminder that all children must be wearing school hats when outside during terms one and four. If your child does not have a hat they will be required to play in a designated shaded area.
**Teaching Your Children Values**

As acute observers of those significant adults in their lives, children generally pick up their parents’ dominant values. If their parents are tolerant of differences, then children will most likely be the same.

If independence is a dominant family value, then it is likely that all children within a family will be able to stand on their own two feet. If honesty in all dealings is practised at home, then there is every chance that children will learn the value of honesty.

Children learn what they live.

However, some values such as honesty, responsibility, and persistence are worth reinforcing and should not be left to chance for children to understand.

Following is an easy way for parents to promote positive values with primary school aged children:

1. Think of a list of 20 values that you would like to promote in your children. School has a list of positive values.
2. Write each value on a card large enough to place on the fridge or a prominent place at home.
3. Talk about a value each week. Perhaps discuss it at mealtime at the start of the week. Make sure children know what the value means and how it may apply to them. Develop with children a vocabulary for each value. For instance, other words for persist maybe try hard, put in effort, stick at it, keep going and hard yakka. Place the value on the card on the fridge or prominent place at home.
4. During the week talk about the value and how it applies to your children at school or at home.
5. You may even make a Values Book where children can draw or write about the value of the week.
6. Point out to children informally when they put positive values into practice. E.g.: “It’s great that you are honest and own up when you have done the wrong thing.” “You really did speak your mind to your elder brother yesterday. I didn’t know you could be so assertive.”

*Train up a child in the way they should go
And when they are old they will not
Depart from it!*

Proverbs 22:6

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**Upcoming Term 1 Dates**

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<tr>
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<td>Prep day off</td>
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<td>Thursday 4th February</td>
<td>Reconciliation Information Evening 7.00pm</td>
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<td>Friday 5th February</td>
<td>School Mass years 1 to 6-St Joseph’s Church</td>
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<td>Tuesday 9th February</td>
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<td>Wednesday 24th February</td>
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### Religious Education & Parish News

#### Weekend Mass Times For The Parishes of Warragul & Drouin:
- **Warragul**: Saturday 7pm & Sunday 9am
- **Drouin**: Sunday 10.30am
- **Neerim Sth**: Saturday 5.30pm

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<td>12th February Grades 1/2 Barry, Jeffers, Hawes</td>
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<td>Thursday 24th March Stations of the Cross WHOLE SCHOOL</td>
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<td>Grade 5/6 Farina</td>
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#### Reconciliation Parent Information Night
A parent information session will be held on Thursday night in the Marian Room at St. Joseph’s Church at 7pm for any parents that have children at grade 3 and above interested in receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. For further information contact Ruth at the Parish office on 56231642 or see Mr. Thompson at school.

#### Reconciliation Commitment Masses This Weekend
Following on from the information session, a commitment Mass will take place this coming weekend, for children making their First Reconciliation. The Mass times are 7pm Saturday or 9am Sunday at St. Joseph’s Warragul, or 10.30am at St. Ita’s in Drouin. All families who wish to receive this Sacrament for their child/ren must attend a Commitment Mass and take part in the commitment ceremony.
RECONCILIATION 2016
Just a reminder that the Information session for parents who would like their child to make their first Reconciliation will be held on Thursday 4th February, at 7.00pm in the Marian Room. It is expected that at least one parent from each family attend this session. If you are unable to attend this meeting please attend in Drouin on Wednesday 3rd February at 7pm at St. Ita’s church. For more information ring Ruth on 5623 1642.

Below are all the dates for the program.

Parent Information Evening – Thursday 4th February, 7.00pm
(Drouin Wednesday 3rd, February 7.00pm St. Ita’s Church)
Commitment/Enrolment Mass -
either Saturday 6th February, 7pm or Sunday 7th February, 9am
(Drouin Sunday 7th & 14th, 10.30am)
Parent Meeting – Thursday 18th February, 7.00pm
(Drouin Wednesday 17th, 7.00pm St. Ita’s Church)
Parent/child Workshop 1 – Thursday 3rd March, 4pm or 7pm
(Drouin Wednesday 2nd March, 7pm, St Ita’s Hall)
Parent/child Workshop 2 – Thursday 10th March, 4pm or 7pm
(Drouin Wednesday 9th March, 7pm St Ita’s Hall)
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION – Thursday 17th March, 7pm

Sacrament Contribution Increase
Please note that the cost for Sacraments has increased from $25 to $30 for 2016. This is the first increase for a number of years.
Also, due to Diocesan policy, families from St. Joseph’s Primary School will now pay the full amount, ie. $30 directly to the parish rather than have $10 subsidized through school fees.
If you have any queries regarding this payment please contact Prue at the parish office on 5623 1642.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY
Children’s Liturgy will be held weekly during the school term at the 9am Mass in Warragul, and the 10:30am Mass in Drouin. This liturgy will be open to preschoolers, as well as primary school aged children. Parents are welcome to attend with their children if necessary. For more information contact Liz on 5625 2253

DEEPEST SYMPATHY & CONDOLENCES to the Cook family (Dale & Jo) on the passing of Dale’s father. Grandfather to Maggie in Grade 3/4 Moritz/Leary and Pippa in Grade 3/4 Dodman. Our prayers and best wishes are with the Cook family.
**Bakers Delight at Coles Centrepoint Dough Raiser Program**
Simply mention St Joseph’s Primary school at the Bakers Delight near Coles, Williams Square in Warragul and they will give 5% of sales back to our school. Fresh bread tastes even better when you know it’s helping raise money for our school.

**Warragul Cinema Tickets**
Warragul Cinema vouchers/tickets available for $13.00 from the school office.

**School Support Roster**
The meals roster for school support is currently being set up for the year. School support is a service designed to help school families who are in need of a meal during difficult times, such as illness in the family or the arrival of a new baby. Each week the school regularly hands out 3-4 meals so ideally we require at least 40 people to be part of this invaluable service. All meals are kept in the school freezer until needed. If you are able to be on the roster and provide a meal once a term, please let me know or leave your details at the office. Thank you to all who have so far volunteered to be on the roster.
*If you were on the roster last year and wish to be on again, please let me know.* Many thanks, Naomi Simpson
simpsonsings@bigpond.com 0438 558 152

**Cake Raffle Roster—Friday at Assembly 50 cents**
Once again we are wanting volunteers to form part of our Cake raffle roster for Friday afternoon assemblies. We all know how the children love this treat on a Friday afternoon. Please remember not nuts when baking and to provide a list of ingredients with the cake. The cake is required at School by 2.45pm on a Friday afternoon so raffle tickets can be sold prior to assembly. If you are interested in this please contact me.
*Thanking you, Meg Height 0438 514027 or admin@thesummit.net.au.*

**St Joes Playgroup**
Every Monday morning at 9.30am or straight after morning assembly in the Art Room (old Staffroom)
Commences Monday 8th February!
All Welcome
For further information contact
Contact Silvia 0418 764 954
or silviantony@vic.australis.com.au

**Icy Poles Term 1 Wednesdays**
If we are to continue Icy poles on Wednesdays, then we desperately need the support of parents to run this during lunch time on Wednesdays. Without support this activity will not continue. If you can help please contact the school office or Meg Height, P&F president.

**Notice Board Items**

**Lost**
A St.Joseph’s school bag belonging to “Henry Allsop”. It is labelled and was lost at the end of last year. If you have accidently ended up with it could you please return the bag to Mrs.Ford. *Thanking you.*

**Wanted/Needed**
Mrs. Leary (Art Teacher) is in need of Lifestyle magazines and cleaned empty yogurt or butter containers to use during Art Classes. If you are able to help out with any of these items could you please drop them into the Art Room. *Thanking you.*
**Sports News - Melia Silver**

**Victorian Schools Sports State Team Trials**
Registration for the Victorian Schools States Teams is now open. If your child is playing at an elite level (At least representative/squad) in Australian Rules Football, Soccer, Netball or Basketball then the school would be happy to nominate them to enter the trial process. It will be parents responsibility to take children to the trial events and there is a $25 fee with your application. Please read the information at the following website for more details and registration forms.
https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic/Pages/onlineRegistrationInformation.aspx

**District Swimming**
The District Swimming Carnival is being held on Friday 19th February at the Drouin outdoor pool. Our team is being finalised this week and children will be given permission slips.

**Athletics Carnival**
Our Athletics Carnival this year is being held at the Geoff Watt Track on Wednesday 24th February. Please put the date in your diary. We will need many parent helpers for this event so if you are available please keep the date free and check the newsletter for details.

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**Library News - Barb Bird**

Welcome to another year of exciting reading. Hopefully everyone went on some sort of journey over the holiday period through a book. A world of adventure awaits those game enough to turn a page or two. Thanks to everyone who located lost resources over the holidays. Please ensure they are placed into the return trolley throughout the week. A great way of looking after resources is to encourage and insist upon the use of a library bag. If students do not have a bag as yet, they are available in the library foyer for a small donation of $2.50.

**Book Club**
Once again our school will be offering books for purchasing through the Scholastic Book Club. Twice a term, flyers will be sent home with students in all classes. Please feel free to browse and talk about favourites, make suggestions as to possible good reading choices and if something takes your interest, then make a purchase. Orders may be placed by filling out the slip in the catalogue and returning it to the classroom teacher, with the money or a cheque made out to Scholastic. The other option is to purchase online through the LOOP ordering system. Details are available on the flyers. Our school receives bonus points from each purchase, which we then use to buy new resources. There is no obligation to make a purchase. Your purchased items are usually back a week after orders are placed. We are happy to keep items in the library should you wish to make a surprise purchase for a gift. Please indicate this on the order slip. We thank you for your support whenever possible. The flyers for issue one will be sent home this Friday. Orders will be due back to school on **Friday 12th February.**