Dear Families,

‘Christmas: God challenges human values. Christmas is about the poor, the homeless, the refugee. It is about lack of pretence, about generosity, compassion, about putting others first, about commitment. Unless we can sense this spirit of Christmas, unless we see it through the eyes of humility, there is no Christmas. Religion is not just about our reaching to God and God reaching out to us, especially in the coming of Jesus. It is a reminder that we are called to make Christmas real, that we are called to bring to reality the message of that original Christmas. Writer Henri Nouwen said the beauty of Christmas was that it reminded us ‘salvation comes from something small, tender and vulnerable—something hardly noticeable’.” He added that: ‘I keep expecting loud and impressive events to convince me of God’s saving power, but over and over I am reminded that the spectacles, power plays and big events are only the ways of the world.’

Why is Christmas risky? One of the main challenges of Christmas is coming to terms with the wonder of it all, with the innocence, joy, love, the sense of community, and generosity. It may be a simple and very familiar story but it requires a leap of faith. It challenges cynicism, hardness and indifference.’

Jim Quillinan 2009

END OF YEAR MASS
Our end of year Mass is Friday 11th December, 9:30am at Saint Joseph’s Church (weather permitting). Parents are very welcome and encouraged to attend our final Mass for the year.

GRADUATION DINNER
Our Graduation Mass and Dinner is on Thursday 10th December at St Joseph’s Church at 6.00pm. Immediately after Mass, the Graduation dinner will be held at St Joseph’s Hall.

2016 Book Lists
Book lists were sent home yesterday with students. If you have not received your 2016 book list please collect one from the office.

School Reports
End of year reports will be issued on Friday 11th December. School reports can mean anxious times for parents and students. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people. When you open the school report do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths rather than focus purely on areas that need improving. Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard then you and your child or young person have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort then you can’t ask any more than that regardless of the grading. Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of how your child is progressing as an individual in a social setting. The skills of independence and cooperation are highly rated by employers these days so don’t dismiss these as unimportant. Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about their strengths first before looking at areas needing improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns. After reports are read and discussed celebrate your children’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while. (Michael Grase)

Swimming Sports Years 3-6
Children in years 3 to 6 will participate in their annual swimming sports this Friday at the Drouin pool. If parents choose to pick their children up from the pool and take them home, please notify your child’s teacher before doing so. Assembly this Friday will predominantly be Prep-2. Reminder also that the P-2 tabloid activities with a ‘water theme’ will be conducted next Wednesday 9th December on the school oval. This will commence at 2.00pm sharp.
END OF TERM
Classes conclude at 3.20pm on Wednesday 16th December. Formal classes for all grades will commence on Monday 1st February 2016. Testing days for students will be conducted on the Thursday 28th and Friday 29th January. Letters will be sent home this week for families to make their appointment times online.

TESTING NEXT YEAR
Testing for January 28th & 29th 2016, will involve each student coming into the school for a half hour testing session with their classroom teacher. The students will be tested on their mathematical skills through the use of the MAI testing tool (Mathematic Assessment Interview). The information gathered will be used to plan the student’s program in mathematics. Further testing in Literacy will take place in the first few weeks of Term 1.

CLASSES 2016
Grade Prep  Miss Terriann Paulger
Grade Prep  Mrs Lisa Wans
Grade 1/2  Mrs Chantelle Jeffers
Grade 1/2  Mrs Kelli Ford
Grade 1/2  Mrs Vanessa Barry
Grade 1/2  Mr Kristian Thompson
Grade 1/2  Miss Jenni Hawes
Grade 3/4  Mrs Leonie Dodman (4 days) Mrs Michelle Inchincoli
Grade 3/4  Mrs Emma Van Boven (3 days) and Mrs Ann-maree Daly (2 days)
Grade 3/4  Mr Michael Shannon
Grade 3/4  Mrs Meagan Maunder
Grade 3/4  Ms Sonja Moritz and Mrs Robyn Leary
Grade 5/6  Mr Mick Clancy
Grade 5/6  Mr Jonathan Baker
Grade 5/6  Mrs Lynda Farina
Grade 5/6  Mrs Melia Silver

We welcome all of our new teachers to our school community and sincerely hope their time here will be professionally and personally rewarding. Children will have had their first orientation session with their new teacher today. It is important for parents to encourage, build resilience and support their child, and classroom teacher, as they embrace their new class for 2016.

REFLECTION
Open our hearts in welcome.  
Remove the things that hinder us from 
Receiving Christ with joy 
So that we may share his wisdom 
And become one with him 
When he comes in glory 
For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit 
One God for ever and ever.
**Term 4 Dates**

**WEEK 9**  
Wednesday 2nd December - Orientation Day (9.30am-11.00am)  
Thursday 3rd December - Combined School Committee & Parents & Friends Dinner (7.30pm)  
Friday 4th December - Grade 6 Fairview Homes  
Friday 4th December - Swimming Sports Grades 3-6 (10.30am Start)

**WEEK 10**  
Monday 7th December - Italian Day/Pizza Day  
Wednesday 9th December - Prep - Grade 2 Water Based Tabloid Sports (2.00pm Start)  
Thursday 10th December - Graduation Dinner & Mass (6.00pm Mass at Church)  
Friday 11th December - End of Year Mass (9.30am)

**WEEK 11**  
Wednesday 16th December - Students finish at 3.20pm.  
Friday 18th December - END OF TERM FOR STAFF.

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**Term 1 2016 Dates**

Wednesday 27th January - Teachers Commence  
Thursday 28th & Friday 29th January - Testing Days

**WEEK 1**  
Monday 1st February - Classes Commence

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**Teacher School Email Addresses**

To assist with communication between teachers and parents, please find teacher email addresses listed below. Please remember that teachers will respond to emails when they are able, during office hours, and this will not necessarily be as soon as you have emailed them. If you need to contact the school immediately, ringing reception is still the best option on 5623 2943. The principal email address is listed on the front page of the newsletter.

*Office Admin* - kbarrett@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, drobbins@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Prep Rhodes* - erhodes@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Prep Wans* - lwans@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 1/2 Barry* - vbarry@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 1/2 Ford* - kford@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 1/2 Fechner* - kfechner@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 1/2 Jess Kennedy* - jkennedy@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 1/2 Jeffers* - cjeffers@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 3/4 Dodman* - ldodman@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 3/4 Kennedy* - jkennedy001@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 3/4 Shannon* - mshannon@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 3/4 Moritz* - smoritz@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, rleary@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 4/5 Thompson* - kthompson@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 5/6 Clancy* - mclancy@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 5/6 Inchinchilli/Tomkins - minchincoli@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, mtomkins@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 5/6 Silver* - msilver@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au  
*Grade 5/6 Stanley/Shelton* - tstanley@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, gshelton@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>FRIDAY MASS/LITURGY</th>
<th>DISPLAY</th>
<th>MONDAY ASSEMBLY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>4th December</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Shannon</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Silver</td>
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<td>All 1/2 Grades</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>11th December</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Barry</td>
<td>Grade Prep Rhodes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>WHOLE SCHOOL MASS END OF YEAR</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>NO MASS</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Barry</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Kennedy</td>
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Children’s Liturgy Dates For Term 4, 2015
- Sunday 6th December, 10.30am Drouin,
- Sunday 13th December, 9.00am Warragul,
- Sunday 20th December, 10.30am Drouin

RCIA: (Becoming Catholic)
This weekend at the 10.30am Mass at St. Ita’s Drouin, Fiona Molenaar will celebrate a Rite of welcome. Please keep her in your prayers as she celebrates her first formal step in becoming a Catholic at Easter.

Christmas Present Appeal
Our School Community, in conjunction with St Vinnie’s, is holding a Christmas Appeal. There will be a Christmas tree set up in the Administration area. Decorating this tree will be small gift cards with the gender and age of a child on it. Please select a card from the tree and buy an appropriate present. The other card you will find attached is for your family to write a short Christmas message, if you would like. Please return your wrapped present, with the tags attached, to the basket under the tree.

If you would prefer to donate non-perishable food items please feel free. They may be placed in the provided hamper too.

All of the presents will be delivered to St Vinnies in Warragul in time to reach families in our local area for Christmas. Every time our school community collects food items or raises money for, and awareness of, those in society who are less fortunate than ourselves, we strive for the common good. Jesus taught that God asks each of us what we are doing to help the poor and needy: “Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40). By working together on Social Justice projects to improve the wellbeing of people in our society and the wider world we are answering Jesus’ call.
St. Joseph’s Playgroup
Every Monday morning 9.30am or straight after morning assembly in the library.
All welcome.
For further information contact
Renae 0423 373 377
email NaysPeck@icloud.com
There will be no playgroup Monday 7th December. The final playgroup for the year will be on Monday 14th December. Please join us for our playgroup Christmas party! We will be doing Christmas activities and having lots of fun! All welcome!

Cake Raffle
Please remember no nuts when baking and to provide a list of ingredients with the cake.
The cake is required at School by 2.30pm on a Friday afternoon so raffle tickets can be sold prior to assembly.
4th December - Alison Lisle
11th December - Belinda Ridsdale
Thanking you, Meg Height 0438 514027 or admin@thesummit.net.au

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

School Support Roster
Thank you for volunteering your time to help out with school support.
Please make a family sized meal to feed approximately 5 people.
Can all meals please be labelled with the name of the meal, ingredients and the date it was made. Please include your initials.
Some ideas for your meal includes lasagne and pasta bakes, pies, casseroles and slow cooked dishes and soups. Anything homemade or purchased which freezes well is appreciated.
Due to nut and sesame seed allergies at school, please don’t include them in the meal.
30th November Christine Dicker, Emma Kemp, Michaela Codling
7th December Leanne Dunsmuir, Danielle Auldist, Kylie Logan
14th December Lisa Heggart, Erin Nash, Vanessa Hughes
Thanks again for your generosity, Naomi Simpson, 0438 558 152

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.

Icy Poles
Parents & Friends will be co-ordinating Icy pole day every Wednesday this term.
So bring along your 50cents to buy an icy pole at lunchtime.

Parents And Friends Christmas Appeal
This year the P&F Auxiliary have decided to support the School’s Christmas Present Appeal instead of running their Christmas Raffle.
As there is no requirement to purchase tickets or make donations to the raffle, P&F is encouraging families to support the Appeal by donating a wrapped present to the Christmas tree or donate non-perishable food items.
Thank you P&F Executive
Congratulations Kristian & Ruth

Congratulations & best wishes to Kristian & Ruth on their Wedding Day last Saturday 28th November.

Awards Term 4, Week - 8

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>PRINCIPAL AWARD</th>
<th>CLASS AWARD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Wans</td>
<td>Flynn Dunsmuir</td>
<td>William Wang</td>
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<td>Prep Rhodes</td>
<td>Ronnie Buck</td>
<td>Audrey Simpson</td>
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<td>One/Two Jeffers</td>
<td>Joshua Clark</td>
<td>Chloe Jinks</td>
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<tr>
<td>One/Two Barry</td>
<td>Natalia Romano</td>
<td>Lucas Dalton</td>
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<td>One/Two Fechner</td>
<td>Millicent Brown</td>
<td>Thomas Patterson</td>
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<td>One/Two Ford</td>
<td>Emily Kubeil</td>
<td>Ava Patterson</td>
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<tr>
<td>One/Two Kennedy</td>
<td>Ava Webster</td>
<td>Malachi Wiggers</td>
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<td>Three/Four Dodman</td>
<td>Riley Pratt</td>
<td>Angela Mirkovic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three/Four Kennedy</td>
<td>Harry Titmarsh</td>
<td>Tyler Wiegerink</td>
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<td>Three/Four Moritz</td>
<td>Ruby Burgess</td>
<td>Samuel Vaughan</td>
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<td>Three/Four Shannon</td>
<td>Max Richards</td>
<td>Brydie Nyko</td>
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<td>Four/Five Thompson</td>
<td>Meaghan Romano</td>
<td>Seth Giammona</td>
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<td>Five/Six Stanley/Shelton</td>
<td>Liam Fennell</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five/Six Silver</td>
<td>Hamish Dastey</td>
<td>Brock Nardone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five/Six Clancy</td>
<td>Rhianna Somerville</td>
<td>Meg Debnam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five/Six Inchincoli/Tomkins</td>
<td>Ella Dunn</td>
<td>Chelsea Spencer</td>
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Wanted/Needed For Grade 6 Graduation Dinner

The Grade 6 teachers are in need of washed empty tin cans with labels removed. If you are able to assist with these please send them to Mrs. Silver ASAP. Thanking you.
Sports News - Melia Silver

Swimming Sports
This Friday is the Grade 3-6 children swimming carnival at Drouin outdoor pool. Children will be going by bus to the pool leaving school at 10.00am. Children are to wear full sports uniform with bathers underneath or they can change at the pool on arrival. At present the weather looks like it will be a hot day so hats, drink bottles and sunscreen will be essential. Please make sure all clothing and towels are labelled as we always end up with lost property at the end of the day. Children should have signed up for the events they wish to compete in by now if not they can do so on the sports notice board. Thank you to all the wonderful parents who have offered to help out on the day.

Prep to 2 Water Based Tabloid Sports will be conducted next Wednesday 9th December on the school oval commencing at 2.00pm.

Tough Mudda
Last Friday we had our Tough Mudda competition. This consisted of three legs, a bike leg with tyre and pole obstacles, and two obstacles legs. There were 7 races the 3/4 girls, 3/4 boys, 5/6 girls, 5/6 boys, mix teams, girls individual and boys individual. This year there were many different obstacles which included a water pit, tyre pull and a giant slide. It was a tough course and everyone that competed tried their best and did a fantastic job. It was also great to hear the crowd really encouraging everyone. Thank you Melia Silver and Megan Spencer for all the effort they put into organise the day and to all the parents and teachers that helped out. Also a huge thank you Meg Height and the Summit Team that loaned us their great equipment to make it a fun day.

By Bridie Mulqueen and Eilish Kimber

3/4 girls team winners
Lavinia Armstrong, Alissa Kubale, Violet Pyle

3/4 boys team winners
Patrick Alger, Sam Vaughan, Rick Rosser

5/6 girls team winners
Ella Gaul, Phoebe Gibbons, Mackenzi Rigg

5/6 boys team winners
Matt Pecoraro, Tom Carpenter, Damien Jones

Girls individual
Bridie Mulqueen 5/6
Ava Gaul 3/4

Boys individual
Renn Coghlan 5/6
Mackye Rietmueller 4
Caleb McKenna 3

Mix teams
Brady Einsiedel, Bridget Alger, Jamie Earles
Italian Day - Monday 7th December

Italian Day 2015 — Buon Natale!!!
We are celebrating our annual Italian Day next Monday 7th December. For those new to the school, the day begins with a short assembly, which parents are welcome to, and then the children spend the day in multi age groups, completing six different activities.

As Italian day is close to Christmas this year, it will have a ‘Buon Natale”, that is, Merry Christmas theme to it. The children are invited to come dressed in Christmas colours (which are coincidentally also the colours of the Italian flag – green, white and red), dressed as someone from the nativity, a Christmas character, La Befana, a zampognari (you might need to google those!) or wear Christmas themed clothes. It promises to be a great day.

Saluti, Signora Mulqueen

Library News - Barb Bird

Library Returns
It is now time to ensure all library books are returned. We will be commencing the stocktake of our resources next week so hopefully some of the missing items will surface from containers, shelves or corners of classrooms and homes. Thank you for taking the time to locate missing items before the end of next week.

Wellbeing - Michael Tomkins

Social Skills
As we finish the year we have two final social skills lessons. We are looking at getting along with others and confidence. These two skills are very important to students moving into new classes as happened today. Last week’s award for social skills was for organisation which also ties in with moving into new classes. Next year the first social skills lesson will be around persistence which is one of the four main pillars of the schools social skills program. Of course the underlying social skill that works though all lessons is resilience which can be discussed in every lesson.