Dear Families,

With our year almost at a close I would like to take this opportunity to thank all children, teachers and parents for the wonderful year our school community has had. Whilst my experience has spanned only the last two terms I feel fortunate to be part of such a wonderful and progressing school community. We indeed should thank God for the many brilliant events and activities that our children have been involved in throughout the year. There have been times of joy and sadness, times that have provided success and times where we have had challenges and frustrations. Each of us needs to build on these experiences to help us grow and become stronger people. Through each experience we come to deepen our relationship with God and recognise the presence of God in everyday situations and in our Church.

Christmas time of course is a very special time for each one of us in our Christian experience. Religion is not just about our reaching to God and God reaching out to us, particularly in this time of 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 where Jesus was born in Bethlehem. It is during Christmas we endeavour to come 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 us to move beyond the materialism of Christmas, to recognise and make a leap of faith!

To our children I congratulate each child for their year at St Joseph’s. You have made very good progress with your school work, and have all tried to live up to the school motto of Advance in Wisdom. You can be very proud of your efforts and we hope that 2016 will be a wonderful year for all of you.

I sincerely thank all of our staff for their continued hard work and dedication throughout the school year. Their efforts and commitment are greatly appreciated. To our many parents who help in so many ways: we appreciate your efforts and thank you for your involvement in our school community. We look forward to your ongoing support in the coming school year.

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GRADE SIX GRADUATION AND GRADE FIVE PARENT HELPSERS

Our Grade Six graduation ceremony and dinner is being held this Thursday 10th December, commencing with Mass at 6.00pm. Parents of Grade Five children helping on the night, please come to the Hall kitchen by 7.45pm. Desserts can be dropped off at the school office during the day or delivered straight to the hall kitchen prior to dinner commencing at 7.15pm.

END OF YEAR, END OF YEAR MASS

We are celebrating the end of the 2015 school year with a whole school Mass this Friday 11th December. The Mass will commence at 9.30am in St Joseph’s Church.

DISMISSAL

Formal classes will cease on Wednesday 16th December. If for family or other reasons parents decide to keep their children at home on these days, please inform your child’s teacher so we can make the necessary alterations to our program.

COMMENCEMENT OF 2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Formal classes commence on Monday 1st February. Please don’t forget to book your testing session on either Thursday 28th or Friday 29th January. Bookings can be made online. Letters explaining the online booking procedure were sent home last week.

BOOKLIST REMINDER

A reminder that booklist orders need to be placed by this Friday 11th December.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au
Enter THIS school event code.

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DATE SHEET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEC</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Grade Six Graduation and Grade Five Parent Helpers</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEC</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>End of Year, End of Year Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEC</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dismissal</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAN</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Commencement Of 2016 School Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAN</td>
<td>28-29</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Booklist Reminder</td>
</tr>
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SAINT JOSEPH’S SCHOOL COMMITTEE

- Stuart Simmie 0439 349 131
- Renee Peck 0423 373 377
- Boris Mrkovic 0409 010 059
- Tim Bethune 0419 314 720
- John Van de Burgt 0418 300 788
- Kim Debnam 5622 1162
- Narelle May 5623 4608
- Katrina Magyar 0413 518 258
- Kate Wenig 0407 884 558
- Margot Baker 0402 475 149
- Ken Heywood 5634 2111
- Luke Patterson 0439 311 569
- Nella Marx 0488 515 113
- Mark Dunsmuir 0417 475 961
- Stuart Dalton 0447 527 120
**Term 4 Dates**

**WEEK 10**
- 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.

**Term 1 2016 Dates**

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

**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 Inchincoli/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
**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>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10   | 11th December  
WHOLE SCHOOL MASS  
END OF YEAR | Grade 1/2 Barry  
Grade Prep Rhodes | Grade 1/2 Barry  
Grade 3/4 Kennedy | Grade Prep Rhodes  
Grade 3/4 Kennedy |
| 11   | NO MASS | Grade 1/2 Barry  
Grade Prep Rhodes | Grade 3/4 Kennedy  
Grade Prep Rhodes |

**Children’s Liturgy Dates**  
**For Term 4, 2015**  
Sunday 13th December, 9.00am Warragul, Sunday 20th December, 10.30am Drouin

**Reconciliation 2016**  
Our Reconciliation program begins early first term. The program will begin with an Information session 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.  
For more information ring Liz on 5623 1642 or email lschellekens@dcsi.net.au

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, 9.00am  
(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**
Parents & Friends Rosters & News

**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

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.
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.

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
What's Happening In & Around Classrooms

Christmas Present Appeal
Our School Community, in conjunction with St Vinnie’s, is holding a Christmas Appeal. There is a Christmas tree set up in the Administration area. Decorating this tree are 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.

Awards Term 4, Week - 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>PRINCIPAL AWARD</th>
<th>CLASS AWARD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Wans</td>
<td>Samantha Richards</td>
<td>Mischa Ward</td>
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<td>Prep Rhodes</td>
<td>Jay Pilla</td>
<td>Arabella West</td>
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<td>One/Two Jeffers</td>
<td>Prand Wilcox</td>
<td>Cooper Patterson</td>
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<tr>
<td>One/Two Barry</td>
<td>Tarynt Davidson</td>
<td>Sahara Hammon</td>
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<tr>
<td>One/Two Fechner</td>
<td>Makhai May</td>
<td>Noah McDonald</td>
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<tr>
<td>One/Two Ford</td>
<td>Logan Royce</td>
<td>Eleanor Graafsma</td>
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<tr>
<td>One/Two Kennedy</td>
<td>Darcy Britt</td>
<td>Eva Barry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three/Four Dodman</td>
<td>Jai Mure</td>
<td>Taylah Campbell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three/Four Kennedy</td>
<td>Magenta Licciardello</td>
<td>Hannah Hodge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three/Four Moritz</td>
<td>Seth Lear</td>
<td>Josh Cutler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three/Four Shannon</td>
<td>Harry Graafsma</td>
<td>Chloe Davidson</td>
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</table>
Congratulations Charli & Keeley
Charli Loft and Keeley Pyle both competed in the Nationals and Pinnacle Cheerleading Competition. Their team won and they are the "Australasian Pinnacle Junior Level 2 Champions". Their performance was televised live on the big screen at Federation Square!

Lost Property
Once again, we have an ever increasing number of items in lost property, ranging from jumpers to drink bottles, lunchboxes and non-uniform items of clothing. If you are missing any items please visit the office and have a look. Thanking you.

School Footy Jumpers
Please return all school footy jumpers to Mr.Thompson ASAP. We have a large number still outstanding. If they are not returned a fee will be incurred by the relevant families to replace them.

Library News - Barb Bird

Take Home Reading Books
Tuesday (today) is the last day for take home reading books. Please ensure all reading books are returned before the end of the week. We hope you will take the time to continue to read with your children each day over the holidays. Encourage your children to read recipes, instructions, timetables, notes written by others etc.. Involve your children in creating their own books to read and enjoy. The Warragul Library has excellent reading material to borrow and enjoy too.

Overdue Library Books
Thanks to the families who responded to our reminder slips sent home on Thursday. We will email a further reminder during this week. Unfortunately we have a huge number of overdue items still to come back. This is higher than ever this year. Please return all items before Friday.

Thanks
Thank you to Kim Wood who volunteers her time each morning to assist with the borrowing and returning of take home books. Our school community really appreciates all her time and efforts. We also thank Jill (otherwise known as the lolly pop lady) who also pops into the library to help shelve books on a regular basis. We thank all the community for supporting our library activities throughout all the year.

Warragul Library
Keep a look out for the Summer Holiday Reading Program on offer at the Warragul Library. They usually run activities, have competitions and provide other incentives to help keep us all reading over Summer.

Thanks everyone for your encouragement and enthusiasm during the year. Hopefully everyone finds a book under the Christmas tree this year!
**Grade 3 – 6 Swimming Sports**

On the 4th of December our 3-6 grades attended our 2015 swimming carnival, at the Drouin outdoor pool. There was 25m and 50m swimming races and the not so confident swimmers were able to enter in the kickboard and novelty events. It was a wonderful day and we could not have asked for any better weather! Everyone had a fun time and enjoyed themselves fully. Congratulations to the competitors who finished 1st and 2nd as they will be representing St. Joseph’s at the District Sports next year. Thanks to all who supported our swimming sports to make it possible. A very special thank you to all the parents who volunteered to be time keepers, place judges and recorders, we could not run this program without your support. Well done to the house captains for organizing team chants and relay teams.

*By Mackenzi and Sophie*

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**Reminder**

**Prep - Grade 2 Water Based Tabloid Sports**

Tomorrow, Wednesday 9th December the Prep to Grade 2 children will be participating in water based tabloid sports commencing at 2.00pm.

Children are asked to wear a t-shirt in their house colour with their sports uniform. Children will need their hats, drink bottles and a spare t-shirt to change into afterwards if they get too wet.

The Grade 6 house captains will be running the activities and parents are more than welcome to attend.
Yesterday we celebrated our annual Italian Day with loads of Christmas cheer. We started the day with assembly, where the children sang a few songs and, together with the teachers and visiting parents and grandparents, the whole school danced the Tarantella, an Italian folk dance. The hall was alive with pairs of people kicking and dancing around in circles. The children then split into multi-age groups and rotated through the following six activities throughout the day:

1. We baked savioardi biscotti.
2. Learned about La Befana, the witch lady who delivers gifts to the children in Italy on the feast of the Epiphany, January 6th.
3. Tasted the Italian Christmas bread, Panettone, and read the legend about the origin of the bread.
4. Learned about the Italian traditions of Il Presepio, the Nativity.
5. Compared the Italian and Australian Christmas experiences.
6. We danced and sang some Italian songs.

As always one of the highlights of the day was our pizza lunch, which was wonderfully organised by Cara McIntosh, who was ably assisted by a band of helpers. Thanks so much to these parents and grandparent for volunteering their time. The children love it!! Finally, a personal thanks must go to Bernie Rigano and Mary Pitt, who slave away in the kitchen all day, without a break, so that all the children can have hands on experience of baking biscotti and of course eating some too. Approximately 2000 biscotti were baked, and Bernie and Mary had the kitchen functioning like clock work. Well done ladies!
BUON NATALE!!!
Signora Mulqueen.