Welcome back to the new school year and especially to our new families who join St Joseph’s for the very first time. We hope that soon you will feel very much a part of our school community. We have several new students across the year levels (see below) and today we greeted our new kinder students who were very excited to spend their first day at big school! They certainly were a big hit with the rest of our school community at our morning assembly and I am sure they will be made to feel at home over the coming weeks.

St Joseph’s is again blessed to have a great Staff and we welcome them back as well to a new year and they are looking forward to working with our enthusiastic students and our very supportive parent community. We especially welcome Mrs Kristan Nichols as our new Kinder teacher and Ms Susie Williamson as a Teacher Assistant (part time) who will run some student wellbeing and social skills programs for us this year. Mrs Fiona Hayward will also return as our STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) teacher and Mrs Nerine McGrath (Speech pathologist) will return on a fortnightly roster.

New starters: (Back row L-R): Tash Hodgkinson Yr 4, Finlay Baird-Philp Yr 6, William Ashby Yr 5, Charlotte Miller Yr 6, Kennedi Green Yr 5. Front row: Akir Baird-Philp Yr 3, Liam Miller Yr 3, Kyle Lee Yr 3, Matthew Potts Yr 2 & Kitty Miller Yr 1

For those who missed the newsletter at the end of last year, other staff and classes are: Mrs Jessica Koenig (Kinder assist – Jess will also take over the roles of Assistant Principal and Additional Needs Teacher); Mrs Kath Brazel (Year 1 teacher & Leader of School Evangelisation & EMU Intervention Teacher); Year 2 teachers - Mrs Jessica Watts & Mrs Vanessa Peck (also Leader of Pedagogy); Mrs Lorna Aldridge (Year 3 teacher & Curriculum Coordinator); Mrs Sonya Steep (Year 4 teacher); Mr Michael Marshall (Year 5 teacher & Sports Coordinator); Miss Josie Lulham (Year 6 teacher & Leader of School Catechesis); Mr Mark Bullock (Library & PD/H/PE teacher). Miss Sarina McNamara (Music Teacher), Other staff returning: Indigenous Education Worker –Mrs Leanne Parsons, Teacher Assistants – Jane Border, Bec Faddy, and Magda Tazbir-Buckley. Mrs Diane Muller (Secretary). We also retain the services of Mr Daniel Wall (Technology Support) and Mrs Wendy Bignell (Sand Play Therapist and School Counsellor). Mrs Bronwyn Burke will continue on as Canteen Coordinator and Mr Darren Gill as Grounds & Maintenance support. I encourage all parents to take the earliest opportunity to come into school and meet your child’s new teacher and other support staff and to also get together to welcome new families and be an active member of our school community here at St Joseph’s.
With regards to being involved in our school, our P&F (Parents & Friends) is a very practical way of being informed about and having a say in what happens here at school. It is also a great way to work with others to make our school a better place for all our students, whether this is through fundraising or organising fun activities and social events for all to enjoy. Today, a new P&F newsletter called “Staying Connected” will be sent out via the Skoolbag App (hard copies available from the school office) so please take the time to have a look at this parent produced document (Thanks to Renee Welsh, our P&F Secretary). The first meeting of the P&F for the year will be on Wednesday 22 February at 6pm so why not grab a friend and come along?

Looking forward to catching up with you all in the near future,
Kind Regards,
David Hughes (Principal)

**CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MON 6 Feb</td>
<td>Canteen</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUES 7 Feb</td>
<td>8:15a.m. Staff Meeting Milo Cricket SWIM CARNIVAL 4.30pm (Yr3-6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED 8 Feb</td>
<td>Library KINDER 3:15 p.m. Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>THUR 9 Feb</td>
<td>Sport: Swimming (Yrs 1-6) Library Yrs 2, 4, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 10 Feb</td>
<td>Whole School Opening Mass 9.15am Library Yrs 1, 3, 5 Canteen</td>
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**Future Events**

Monday 13 Feb: Parent Information Night
22 Feb: P&F AGM

- **Our first whole school mass** will be celebrated **next Friday 10th Feb at 9.15am** in St Peter the Fishermen’s Church. Parents and parishioners are welcome to attend.

**Parent/Teacher Information Night:** Please mark in your diary **Monday 13th February** as the evening set aside for parents to meet their class teacher and share information about class routines, expectations, how to optimise your child’s education etc. Further information with regards to time and child minding arrangements will be forwarded next week.

**Information Update:** Please be mindful of informing the school of any diagnosis or change in medical conditions for your child so that the school plans and records are current and accurate. This is especially important for those students with Asthma, Anaphylaxis, diabetes and other medical illnesses.

**BAND/GUITAR Notice...**
BAND MUSIC LESSONS for students will commence next Monday February 6 at 8am – this includes new music students this year who will receive their instrument! For those in Yrs 3-6 still keen to play an instrument please collect a registration form from the office ASAP.

**PRIMARY SWIMMING CARNIVAL**
(Yrs 3 – 6 plus some Yr 2s)
Tuesday evening 7th February at Laurieton Pool. Starting at 4.30pm. A note has already been sent home with full details.

We are also looking for volunteers to help out. Please contact the office. Michael Marshall Sports Co-ordinator

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**Prayer for our First Day together...**

Father, we thank you for our school community, knowing that we can learn from each other and grow in faith. We pray for all involved in our school that all of us may grow as the people you call us to be. God our Father, in saying that you have written our names on the palm of your hands, you are telling us that each person is unique and special to you.

We pray for students and staff that we may all discover in ourselves the treasures you have given us, and develop and put to good use the qualities we hold in trust from you.

We pray and commit ourselves today, Father, to promote goodness and happiness, by treating other with respect and care and understanding.

So may we help to bring out the best in one another. Amen
We have sold out of ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL BAGS, but should receive another order in approx. 3-4wks. Anyone interested please see Di in the office. The bags are $60.

IMPORTANT:
Please label all clothing including hats, as well as drink bottles, lunch boxes and other personal items so they can be returned!

FREE Second hand electronic keyboard & spinet organ, please enquire at office.

School Banking is available for all students and allows them to develop good saving habits and earn rewards through the Dollarmites token program. Rewards available in 2017:
- Cyber Handball
- Colour Change Markers
- 3D Chalk Set
- Tablet Case
- Smiley Emoji Keyring
- Volt Handball
- Pencil + Tech Case
- Epic Earphones

Our school receives $5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

Getting involved in School Banking is easy!
All you need to get involved in the School Banking program is a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account. You can open an account for your child in one of two ways:
1. Online:
Visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and click on the link to open a Youthsaver account.
2. In branch: Visit a Commonwealth Bank branch with identification for yourself and your child, like a driver’s licence and birth certificate.

School Banking day is Monday. Each week you need to hand your banking book to your class teacher and it will be taken to the office and you will receive back on Fridays.

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

CAMMEN VOLUNTEERS note has been sent home today if anyone can spare some time on a Monday or Friday to assist it would be greatly appreciated. Please return form ASAP 😊 Thank you Menus will be sent home soon.

Camden Haven Physie
Come join us in 2017!
Affordable dance classes from ages 2 to 82. First class free for new attendees. Camden Haven Physie starts back on Monday 6 February 2017 at Laurieton School Of Arts from 3.15pm to 6.45pm. Or Kendall Hall on Wednesday 8 February from 3.30pm Drop in anytime or give us a call on 0407 419 807

FREE Second hand electronic keyboard & spinet organ, please enquire at office.

It’s rego time again... come on down to the LUSC Sportsbar Saturday 4th Feb 12-4pm or Thursday 9th Feb 4-6pm or register online at http://camdenhavennc.nsw.netball.com.au We look forward to seeing both new and current members.

ATTENTION Rugby League Players
Registration Days
Thurs 2nd Feb & 9th
Laurieton from 5:00pm

Anybody from ages U/6’s to U/16’s come down and Register to play with the Mighty Camden Haven Eagles in 2017
OFFICE REMINDERS:

BUS PASSES - some students are still waiting to receive their bus pass. Busways are aware of this and students can still use last year’s pass for the next two weeks. If you require a pass please see the office. Registrations are now done online.

LIBRARY BAGS are available for sale for $8.50 at the school office during office hours.

SCHOOL BANKING - banking forms/starter kits are available from the office. Bring your banking to school on a Monday & deposit books are returned to students by Friday.

SKOOLBAG APP: We have a free app available for your phone which keeps you up to date with happenings at St Joseph’s Laurieton. This app allows users to access school newsletters, parent information, alerts and reminders etc. To download the App, go to the Google Play Store (Android) or App Store (Apple) and from your device search for: “Skoolbag St Josephs Primary Laurieton”.

SCHOOLWORX (ELECTRONIC ROLL) SMS messaging for absenteeism: If your child is away, please wait for an SMS to come through that morning (around 9.45am). Please respond to the SMS text sent as this can be directly attached to your child’s record. Please note, students who arrive after the bell/late for assembly will also have an SMS sent requesting explanation for lateness.

TRANSPORT MESSAGES: please **phone** the school regarding transport changes for your child. Do **not** send an email as this may not be viewed in time! Thank you 😊

UNIFORM POOL - secondhand uniforms are available in the office for a gold coin donation.

SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS - will be sent home shortly as well as an **EXCURSION PERMISSION/EMERGENCY CONTACTS UPDATE FORM** to be returned to school ASAP. If you have moved house during the holidays or **changed contact numbers please advise the office** ASAP. (Likewise with changes to medical information).

TERM 1 CALENDAR will be available shortly.