Dear Friends of the St Joseph’s Community

Term 4 is well under way with students back into their learning routines with enthusiasm already. It was very reassuring to hear how excited so many students were yesterday to be back at school for this final term of the year.

The school staff were busy over the holiday break with preparations for Term 4 and meetings to discuss programming and resourcing. We had a very productive Staff Development Day on Tuesday this week where spirituality was the focus. All Archdiocesan schools have a Spirituality Day each year which is focused on the needs of the school, at the same time that it enriches staff with their spiritual formation. Our focus was on the place of ‘Prayer in our Lives’; our Religious Education Coordinator, Mrs Shannon, developed an inclusive and challenging program for the day which was based at the Star of the Sea Church at Tathra. Our thanks go to their Parish Priest, Father Michael Lim, for his generosity in allowing us to be part of this beautiful church. The study of prayer has the added benefit of better preparing us, as teachers, to impart an awareness of the central place of prayer in the lives of our students, whether they are Catholic or not. Workshops on the day included Prayer Journalling, Prayer in Colour and Christian Meditation. I have experienced meditation as an integral part of school life at many Archdiocesan schools over recent years, from Kindergarten to Year 12 students. That necessity to clear our minds and reflect on the positive elements of our lives in a quiet and settled environment cannot be emphasised enough, particularly in the context of a connection with God. So if your child says that “they want some quiet time to meditate” in the hectic times of home life…… then this is cause for celebration! A phrase from the day’s workshops resonated throughout the group:

“A teacher does not write on inanimate material, but on the very spirit of human beings” (from The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium.)

We wish our local St Mary’s Parish all the best for their 150th Anniversary celebrations this weekend when Archbishop Christopher Prowse will be officiating at Sunday’s Mass.

May God bless you,

Phil Stubbs,
Acting Principal
Today a note has been sent home regarding our upcoming Races Fundraiser. Can you please complete the note and return it ASAP so that the rosters can be completed and SCC can make final arrangements. Thank you!

This Term we will be moving sports days to **Tuesday & Wednesdays**.

Mrs Sten will be coordinating the Infant and Primary Sports Programs during Term 4.

Please be reminded that from the beginning of Term 4, Children will be required to wear their school hat.

No Hat, No Outside Play.

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**Term 4 - Infant Class**

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The Infants class is looking forward to a fun filled term 4. Mrs Sten will be taking the infants class for sport this term so children will need to wear their sports uniform on both Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week.

The children will be learning about the human body and how our bodies grow and change in health. The science focus for the term is 'Let's get moving' where children will be predicting and doing experiments with energy and movement of objects. Mrs Sten will be guiding the students through a unit on our personal histories which will look at our family structures, family stories and where we fit within it. In Religion the children will be learning about prayer in all its forms and important symbols used during prayer. We will be busy preparing artwork for the art show which will be held later this term as well as developing our acting skills ready for the end of year celebrations.

Regards,

Mrs Shannon

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**Term 4 - Primary Class**

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to what promises to be a very busy term. Our major focus this term will be a fully integrated unit of work based on the Australian Wool Initiative’s ‘The Story of Wool’. It covers all academic learning areas exploring the many stages and facets of wool production and is certainly generating plenty of interest in the class. Should you wish to see the details of this work, please send in a USB stick with your child and I will provide you with a copy.

Regards,

Mr Bennett